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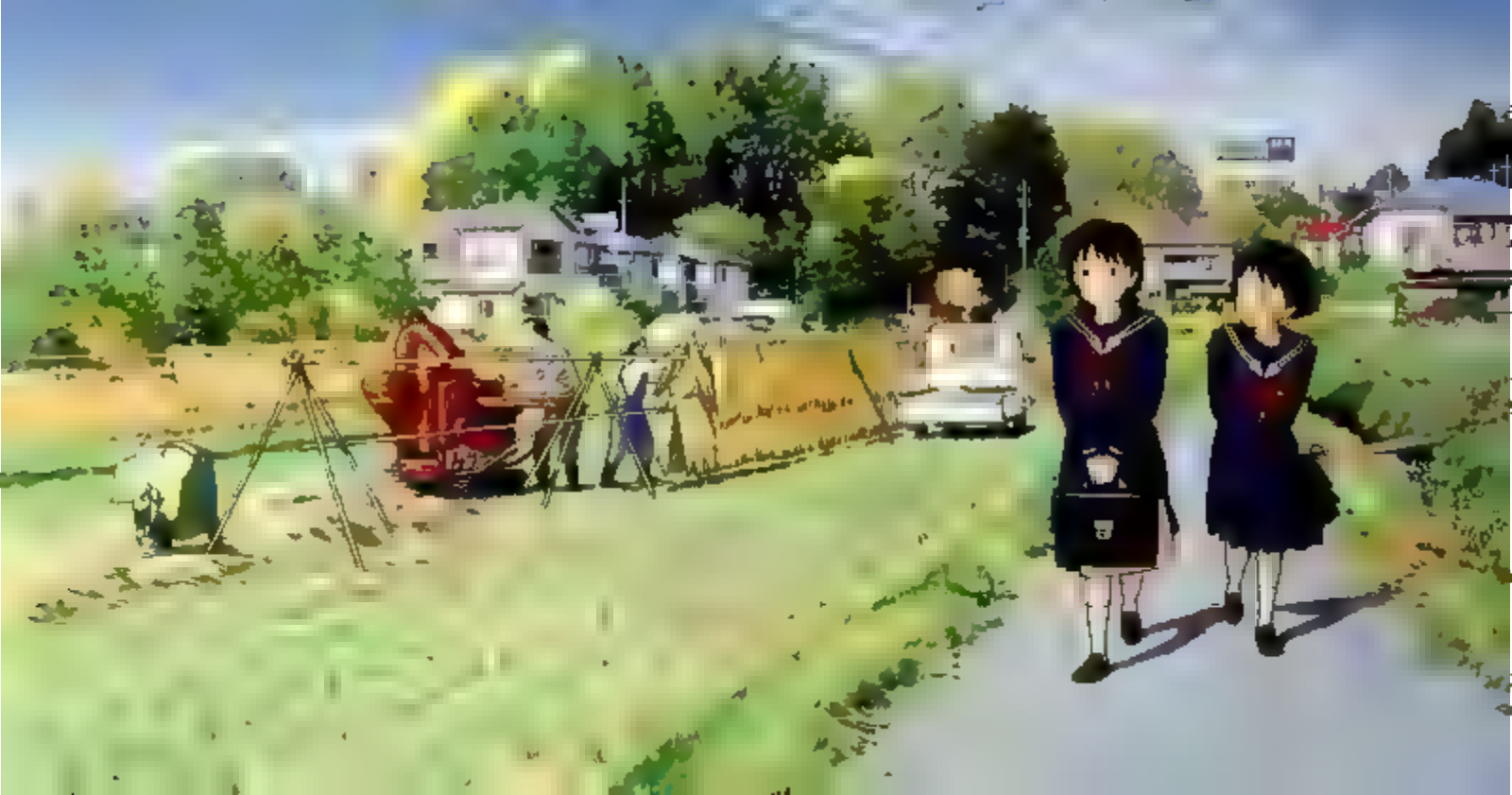

りぼんマスコットコミックス

柊あおい作品好評発売中

乙女ごころ・夢ごころ
星の瞳のシルエット　全10巻
耳をすませば
銀色のハーモニー　全7巻
STEP―ステップ―
星の瞳のシルエット・番外編
ENGAGE -エンゲージ―
ペパーミント・グラフィティ
星の瞳のシルエット・番外編
ENGAGEⅡ

RIBON MASCOT COMICS

耳をすませば 幸せな時間

柊あおい

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柊あおい

♦811
集英社

RIBON MASCOT COMICS

耳をすませば 幸せな時間

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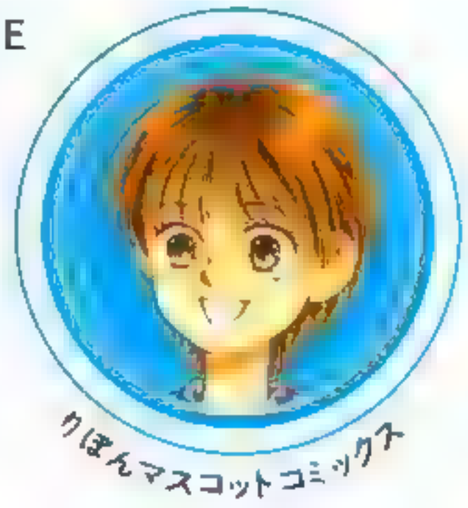
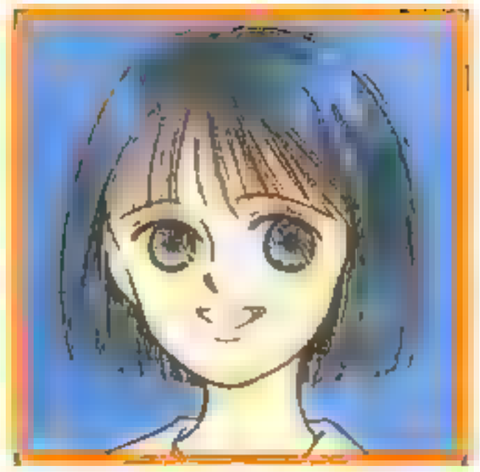


●収録作品●

耳をすませば 幸せな時間

桔梗の咲く頃



作品かいせつ

「『耳をすませば』を描いて6年後、信じられませんが素晴らしい映画になりました。もう一度この世界を描くことになるとは思いませんでしたが、何とか形にすることができました」と語る柊あおい先生。中3の夏、進路を考えはじめた雫は、ある日……!?

柊あおい

♦841

集英社

LOVE R·M·C

RIBON MASCOT COMICS 841

耳をすませば幸せな時間（しあわせなじかん）

柊あおい

もくじ

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桔梗の咲く頃 65

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(BLOOMING OF THE BALLOON FLOWERS) 65

耳をすませば 幸せな時間

WELL, HERE I AM AGAIN, BACK WITH THE SEQUEL TO THE ONLY MANGA I HAVE EVER SCANLATED. I MUST ADMIT THOUGH, LOOKING BACK, IT WAS AN ***EXTREMELY HORRIBLE*** PIECE OF WORK, WHAT WITH MY SUPER NOOBISH SKILLZ OF EDITING AND MY EVEN WORSE TRANSLATIONS FOR THE LACK OF JAPANESE. LANGUAGE SKILLS. NOT THAT IT HAS IMPROVED A LOT, AND I'M STILL USING SOMEONE ELSE'S SCANS.

ANYWAYS...

THIS PROJECT COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IF NOT FOR E-HAKKI, SOME GUY IN A MAILING LIST WHO FOUND FOR ME THE RAWS, WHICH HAPPENED TO BE THE ONES FROM ANOTHER FRIEND FROM A FORUM I GO TO. ANYWAY, I CAN'T PROMISE STELLAR TRANSLATIONS THIS TIME ROUND EITHER, BUT AT LEAST I CAN BE PROUD OF THE EDITING. GOTTA LUV THEM ONLINE TUTORIALS :D

SO ENOUGH RANTING (IF YOU EVEN BOTHER TO READ THIS FAR), GET ON WITH THE SHOW ALREADY.

AND FOR THOSE DIE HARD FANS, DON'T WORRY; HIIRAGI AOI STILL HAS ANOTHER MANGA FOR ME TO TRANSLATE, OF WHICH I ALREADY HAVE SCANS IN POSSESSION.

ROARKILLER

I HAD ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT...

... WE WERE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT TOGETHER ...

AAAA

'Wow' it's a miracle!

And in its depths, the townfolk realized that they could breath underwater

WELL THEN... HOW ABOUT THIS...

... IT'S SO BORING

MY LAST SUMMER HOLIDAY IN JUNIOR HIGH...

NOTE BOOK

WORDS

OH WELL

C'MON, LET'S STOP ALREADY!

WE'VE BEEN STUDYING SINCE NOON, AND IT'S SUCH A NICE DAY OUTSIDE!

AAAAAH, I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!!!

SERIOUSLY, YOU *DO* REALIZE THAT YOU'RE TAKING THE ENTRANCE EXAMS, DON'T YOU?

Aw. Kinu-chan, don't bring that up!

YOU KNOW, THAT'S NOT EXACTLY TRUE.

SHIZUKU!!

We chose to do this, okay?!

HIP!!!

I READ ...TWO BOOKS.

couldn't help it

... WELL, NO.. NOT REALLY...

SHE STOPPED READING?!

Wow, unbelievable

I KNEW IT!!

BUT IT'S ONLY AUGUST!

as expected eh?

Although you ARE the greatest Bloomer here, I think

WELL, CURING YOU IS EASY; YOU GOT A BOYFRIEND TO BE WITH IN THESE DARK TIMES.

SHIZUKU, HOW ABOUT YOU?

Hey hey, Get a hold of yourself

YEAH, ME AND FUKUDA-KUN ARE GOING TO THE SAME SCHOOL, YOU KNOW!

Hand in hand too

sfx: Haa

I'M GONNA SUFFOCATE IF THIS GOES ON

... I NEVER ASKED.

EH?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "EH?", WHICH HIGH SCHOOL IS AMA-SAWA-KUN GOING?

I HAVEN'T DECIDED WHERE TO GO MYSELF.

WHY, YOU ASK ..

WHY NOT?!

SHIMIZU, YOU

YOU'RE EXAGGE-RATING.

BUT FOR ALL YOU KNOW, HE COULD BE OFF TO A *REAAALLY* FAR-OFF PLACE, YOU KNOW!

WOW, NICE ANSWER

SO I think.

EVEN THOUGH WE'RE GATHERING LIKE THIS, WE'RE ALL TAKING DIFFERENT PATHS ANYWAY.

BUT YOU KNOW,

...
THAT'S RIGHT

I'VE THOUGHT THAT FOR A LONG TIME.

WE WERE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT TOGETHER.

LIKE EVERYONE, THE DES-TINATION OUR BOAT TAKES US...

...
ISN'T JUST ONE.

...
BUT YOU KNOW, YUUKO,

IF THAT'S WHAT SEIJI NEEDS TO DO. I DON'T HAVE THE R GHT TO STOP HIM

COULD BE OFF TO A *REAAALLY* FAR-OFF PLACE, YOU KNOW!

WHAT IS THAT?

A FEA-THER!

SHIZUKU!

EXCUSE ME, PLEASE.

Sigh. I'm too nice a father

FINE, FINE. ANYWAY, IT'S NOT EVEN THE FIRST VOLUME, IS IT?

ACK- YOU GOT ME...

AW, C'MON DAD, JUST THIS ONE?

OKAY?

HEY, DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU'D STOP READ-ING?

ACK-

DADDY'S VOICE-

sfx turning sound

IT'S SO PRE-TTY ...

A GRADIENT OF BLACK TO BLUISH TO WHITE.

WONDER WHICH BIRD IT BELONGS TO...

SOMEHOW IT FEELS LIKE WONDERFUL WORDS GATHERING.

LET'S MAKE IT INTO A BOOK-MARK.

NOTEBOOK

WORDS

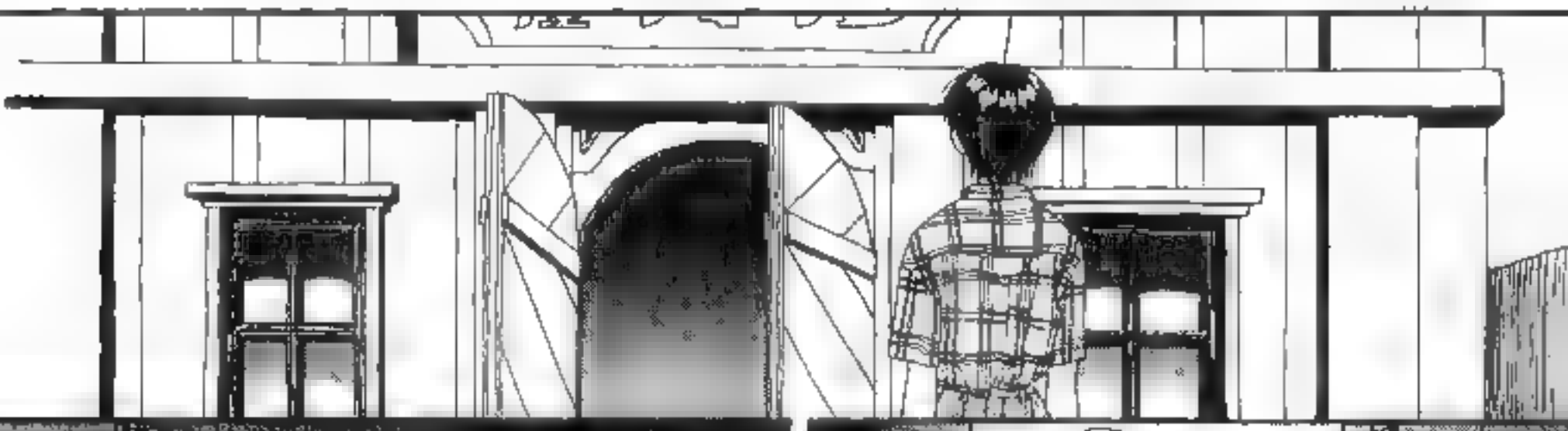
AND WITH THE OPENING OF A NEW BOOK,

MY HAPPY TIMES HAVE BEGUN.

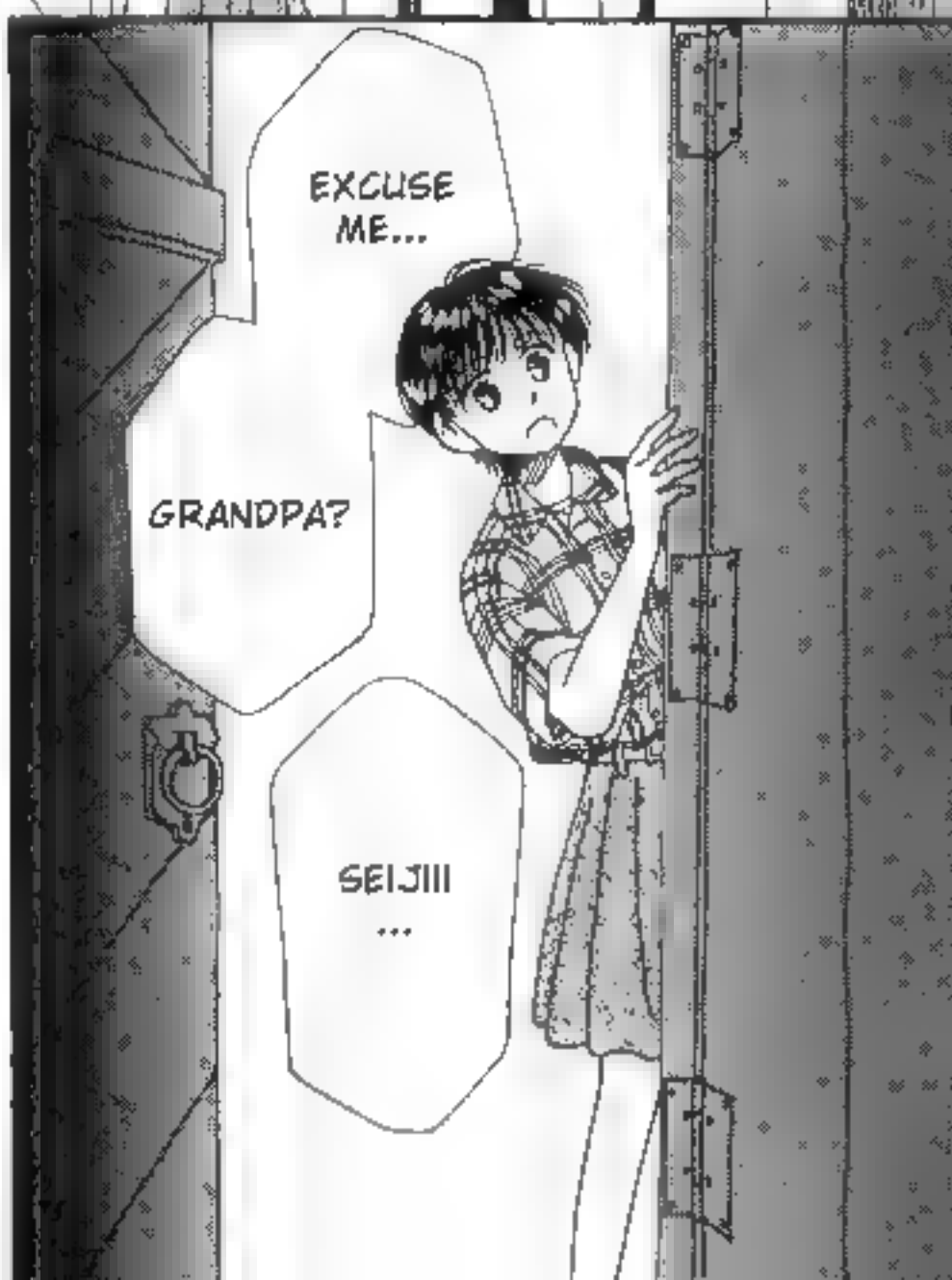
JUST HALF FOR TODAY, THEN ...

LET'S STOP BY THE EARTH SHOP TODAY.

星球館



.....
NO ONE?
THE DOOR WAS OPEN THOUGH.


EXCUSE ME...
GRANDPA?
SEIJIII ...

THE BARON TOO?

AH-

I WON-DER WHERE THEY WENT.

haaa..

ｺﾞﾄ

!

WHAT A BLUE SKY...

MAYBE THEY'RE IN THE ATTIC?

GRAND-PAAA ..

SE+III-JIII...

Any one home?

THERE'S NO WAY THEY'RE NOT IN

Alright then

!

I'M COMING UP!

HEY SEI-J... YOU THERE?

WINGS?!

THE SAME COLOURS AS THE FEATHER I PICKED UP ... MAYBE IT'S THE SAME BIRD?

A PAINT-ING?

. OR THE REAL THING?

OH, ITS SHIZUKU-SAN.

AH, GRAND-PA.

SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO

IT'S ALRIGHT.

YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? PRETTY WINGS, DON'T YOU THINK?

YES ...

... BUT A LITTLE SCARY

AH... THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S REAL.

SO WHAT'S THE STORY?

I KNEW IT

AW, COME ON, NO WAY!

sfx Chuckle

I'M NOT LYING

NO, NO

IT WAS SOLD TO ME ...

... BY THE OWNER IT WAS ATTACHED TO...

A BIRD?

IT WAS THE NIGHT OF THE LAST FULL MOON...

I FIRST THOUGHT IT WAS THE WIND.

WHEN I CAME UP HERE HE WAS THERE AT THE WINDOW

GOOD EVENING, SIR.

IT WAS A KINGF SHER, THE NOCTURNAL KIND...

I THOUGHT I MUST HAVE BEEN DREAMING, BUT IT WAS INTERESTING NONTHELESS.

IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU

AAH GOOD EVENING

I HAVE HEARD THAT THIS PLACE DEALS WITH VARIOUS WONDERFUL OBJECTS.

I WONDER IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN WHAT I HAVE BROUGHT WITH ME?

HO

AND WHAT MIGHT THAT BE?

THESE WINGS.

HO

HOW MAGNI-FICENT!

THEY WERE... THEY WERE MAGNIFICENT THINGS. GLITTERING, AS IF THEY WERE DRENCHED IN THE MOONLIGHT.

YES IT'S ALRIGHT

AS SOON AS I SAID THAT, THE KINGFISHER SUDDENLY BURST INTO TEARS.

BUT IF YOU SELL YOUR WINGS, WON'T YOU BE ABLE TO FLY ANYMORE?

I AM TIRED OF FLYING ALREADY

I WANT REAL FREE-DOM.

REAL FREE-DOM.

HE LOOKED SO PITIFUL IN THAT STATE.

OF COURSE, THE WINGS WERE MAGNIFICENT TOO

... AND THAT IS WHY I BOUGHT THEM...

OF COURSE, IT HURT WHEN THEY WERE CUT, BUT...

I THEN DRESSED HIM IN DOLL'S CLOTHES... AND HE SMILED.

IN THE MOONLIGHT, HE WADDLED OFF TO WHERE HE CAME FROM.

THEN PUT IT ON YOUR BACK, AND YOU ARE FREE TO FLY IN THE SKIES.

PUT THE WINGS LIKE THIS AND EXPOSE IT TO THE LIGHT OF A FULL MOON, AND THEY WILL GAIN MYSTERIOUS POWERS.

THE KING-FISHER ALSO SAID SOME-THING ELSE.

SUCH BEAUTY UNIMAGINA-BLE IN THIS WORLD,

AND SO I THOUGHT "WHY NOT?"

I DIDN'T BELIEVE THAT MUCH EITHER, BUT THAT NIGHT, THE WAY IT GLITTERED IN THE MOONLIGHT...

... BUT WHAT DID THE KINGFISHER MEAN BY "REAL FREEDOM"?

OYA, YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?

... THAT WAS A NICE STORY, GRANDPA.

HA HA HA

SO FROM OUR EYES, THEY LOOK VERY FREE, RIGHT?

BIRDS HAVE WINGS.

LISTEN, SHIZUKU-SAN.

THEY ARE DEFINITELY *NOT* FREE.

BUT FOR THEY WHO CARRY THOSE WINGS, THEY HAVE A TASK.

FOR THE BIRD, THE WINGS ARE TO CARRY A BURDEN...

OF WHAT?

BURDEN?

A TASK?

OF DEATH!!

sfx chair banging

TSUKI-SHIMA, WHAT'S WRONG?

HA?!

SUMMER ... VACA-TION...

EH?

HUH?

WHAT ARE YOU SPACING OUT FOR?

You're making me cry.

SERIOUSLY, IT'S ALMOST OCTOBER ALREADY.

HAHAHAHAHA...HA

Just like Shizuku

AND I WAS ALSO READING THIS WEIRD BOOK, SEE?

UM, NO, JUST TIRED FROM STUDYING...

3-3

AMASAWA-KUN?

... A DREAM?

.....

OH...
I SEE...

HE DIDN'T COME TO SCHOOL TODAY.

HEY, DOES ANYONE KNOW WHY AMASAWA-KUN IS ABSENT TODAY?

NOPE

HM ...

IT'S OKAY, THANKS ANYWAY.

AH WELL ..

WAS THAT A DREAM?!

IT FEELS LIKE I HAVEN'T SEEN SEIJI FOR A LONG TIME.

WHY IS MY HEART BEATING LIKE THIS?

NO WAY...

IT'S CLOSED.

NOW WHAT? MAYBE I SHOULD TRY HIS HOUSE?

Amasawa Clinic

NOW WAIT A M.NUTE...

Not there

UGH ...

I WONDER IF GRANDPA IS IN

EH?

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE BARON, HE'S AT THE CAT'S LIBRARY.

... THE BARON'S NOT HERE TODAY EITHER...

WHO'S THAT?

WHO'S THAT?!

THE CAT'S LIBRARY IS A MYSTERIOUS LIBRARY TO KNOW ALL THINGS

NO WAY... JUST NOW?

LUNA?!

AH, LUNA!

WAIT-

LUNA!!

... IT COULDN'T BE.

... I MUST BE GOING CRAZY...

A FULL MOON ..

AH

... WHAT'S A CAT'S LIBRARY ANYWAY?

sfx footsteps

JUST A LITTLE.

YOU'RE LATE.

"WHOEVER WEARS THOSE WINGS ARE FREE TO FLY"

I'M HOME.

"EXPOSE IT TO THE LIGHT OF A FULL MOON THREE TIMES"

sfx Shines

IT'S
A D-
WING?!

WAS A

TODAY IS THE SECOND FULL MOON!!

EVEN POSS BLE TO FLY FREELY WITH THAT KIND OF BURDEN?

GRANDPA ALSO SAID THE WINGS CARRY A BURDEN OF DEATH.

I HAVE TO MAKE SURE.

sfx: Train running

WHAT DO I DO?

WHAT SHOULD I SAY TO GRANDPA?

BUT HOW DO I DO IT?

GO TO THE CAT'S LIBRARY!!

THE CAT'S LIBRARY IS A MYSTERIOUS LIBRARY TO KNOW ANYTHING

LUNA!!

sfx Turning

RUN!

sfx Run

AH-

HOW DO I GET THERE?

LUNA!!

TELL ME, WILL I REALLY KNOW THE TRUTH IF I GO THERE?

RUN!!

WAIT!!

LUNA!!

RUN!!

JUST HOW FAR ***DOES*** THIS TRAIN GO?

RUN!! RUN!! FASTER!! FASTER!! YOU MUST GO FORWARD!!

EH... HILL?!

THE CAT'S LIBRARY IS ON THAT HILL OVER THERE

WHEN DID...

... THIS IS THE CAT'S LIBRARY.

BUT BEWARE, THE CAT'S LIBRARY IS A TIME OF HAPPINESS

sfx: Door creaking

I SEE, SHE GUIDED ME HERE FOR MY SAKE

EH? LUNA

OYAA... A HUMAN, THAT'S RARE

WELL NOW, A FRIEND OF THE BARON JIKKINGEN, YOU SAY? IN THAT CASE, THERE'S NO REASON NOT TO LET YOU IN.

THA... THANK YOU.

WELL, COME IN THEN.

AH- BARON ... UM... RIGHT .. IS THE BARON IN-

BUT, THIS IS A CAT'S LIBRARY, AND HUMANS ARE FORBIDDEN.

COME COME, THIS WAY.

meow meow

M-ME TOO.

I AM THE LIBRA-RIAN, MUTA.

PLEASED TO MEET YOUR ACQUAINTANCE.

UWAA!!

INCRE-DIBLE!

... THEY'RE ALL BOOKS, AREN'T THEY...

... THE CAT'S LIBRARY, A PLACE TO KNOW ANYTHING.

YES, THIS IS...

EH?

UM...

WELL THEN, WHAT BOOK WOULD YOU BE LOOKING FOR?

WHAT'S ... ... WRONG WITH ME?

WHAT WAS IT THAT I CAME HERE FOR...

WHERE SHOULD I START?

BUT THIS IS *REALLY* INCRED BLE!

EVERYONE HERE'S A BOOKWORM, EH?

ALRIGHT

BUT IT'S STRANGE, I CAN READ IT WELL ENOUGH.

I'VE NEVER SEEN THESE CHARACTERS BEFORE.

SAK MEOWING

PLEASE, TAKE YOUR TIME.

AAAH

THAT WAS INTERES-TING

...
EH?

I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT SEIJI ALONG...

IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'VE HAD THIS MUCH FUN...

IS THE LIBRARY TO YOUR LIKING, LITTLE MISS?

... I CAN'T REMEMBER!!

SOMETHING... IMPORTANT...

WHAT IS THIS?

MUTA-SAN...

THIS IS A REALLY GREAT PLACE, ISN'T IT?

WHY THANK YOU.

IT'S JUST THAT...

"JUST THAT"?

うぐ

sfx tw tch

JUST NOW... THERE'S SOMETHING IMPORTANT...

SHIZU-KU!!

AAH... THAT'S TRUE.

I'LL DO THAT. THANK YOU, MUTA-SAN.

SOME-THING IMPORT-ANT, EH...

WELL THEN, WHY DON'T YOU THINK ABOUT IT WHILE READING?

THAT'S RIGHT,

YOU ALSO CAME HERE.

SHIZUKU, WHY ARE YOU HERE?

BAR-ON!!

IT'S A REALLY NICE PLACE HERE...

YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME SOONER.

REMEMBER YOUR PURPOSE FOR COMING HERE!!

SHIZU-KU!!

YOU'RE MAKING A BIG FUSS ABOUT SOME PURPOSE AGAIN, AREN'T YOU?

OYA OYA, BARON JIKKIN-GEN.

PUR-POSE...

SHIZUKU!!

LOOK INTO MY EYES!

AWAKEN, SHIZUKU!!

NOW

Ah

THAT'S RIGHT!!

IF YOU COME HERE WITHOUT A VERY STRONG WILL,

YOU WILL BE CAUGHT BY YOUR OWN HEART'S DESIRES.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, LIBRARIAN?

Chek

AWW, AND JUST AS SHE FINALLY SEEMS TO BE HAPPY...

SHI-ZUKU

LOOK AT YOUR WATCH.

EH?

I DIDN'T BRING A WAT...

EH...

ゴソ ゴソ

sfx pocket rust ng

WHEN DID I...

TICK TICK

TICK TICK

YOUR TIME IS IMPRINTED IN THIS IMPORTANT WATCH.

THANK GOOD-NESS IT'S STILL WORK NG.

TICK

TICK

TICK

YOU HAD IT ALL ALONG.

YOU JUST DIDN'T REALIZE IT.

AH,

BUT I ALSO BROUGHT MINE ALONG.

WELL, TIME HAS NO MEANING FOR US CATS, AFTER ALL...

WELL, IT CAN'T BE HELPED... HUMANS HAVING THAT SORT OF THING.

WHAT?!

BARON JIKKINGEN, YOU...

I SEE, SO THAT'S IT..

IN THAT CASE, I'LL MAKE IT SHORT.

I ALSO HAD A FEELING ABOUT IT. I WAS LOOKING IT UP IN THIS BOOK.

SO THAT'S IT..

BARON!

YOU SEE, I CAME HERE TO FIND OUT ABOUT THOSE WINGS AT THE EARTH SHOP.

sfx 1: Swish
sfx 2: Book caught

YES, THANK YOU.

ぼすっ

AS EXPECTED FROM THE CAT'S LIBRARY!!

THANK YOU LIBRARIAN, I LEARNT A LOT FROM THIS BOOK.

I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THEM!

THOSE WINGS

YOUR TIME HAS STOPPED ALL THIS WHILE.

WHAT?! BUT I ONLY JUST ARRIVED HERE.

WHEN DID...

COME, WE MUST HURRY!

THOSE ARE FRIGHTFUL WINGS.

YOUR SUSPICIONS ARE CORRECT.

COME, LET'S GO!

TIME HAS NO MEANING FOR US CATS...

DIDN'T I TELL YOU?

THE THIRD FULL MOON IS ALMOST UPON US!

YES YES, TAKE CARE.

SEE YOU, LIBRARIAN!

sfx: warping sound

THIS IS...

AH, THE SUN...

DAYBREAK?

NO!

THAT'S THE WEST!!

sfx Turning sound

くるっ

THEN...

A FULL MOON!!

E
THESE
WAVES
ARE
USED
HURRY!

BEFORE THE MOONLIGHT COMPLETELY ENGULFS THE WINGS!!

GRANDPA!!

OH NO!

sfx door banging

THANK GOODNESS.

ARE YOU ALRIGHT, GRANDPA?

...
SHIZUKU-SAN.

IT'S GONE!!

... IT'S TOO LATE, SHIZUKU-SAN.

SEIJI ...

SEI-JI!!

EH?

SEI-
JI?!

sfx Cawing

カア カア

NO...

SEIJI... IS THAT YOU?

IT'S SHIZUKU, REMEMBER?

... IT'S NO USE, HE'S NO LONGER HUMAN.

BARON, PLEASE!!

CAN'T WE DO ANYTHING?!

EVEN IF HE WANTS TO, THERE'S NO MAGIC THAT CAN HELP HIM.

HIS CURIOSITY TO FLY PROBABLY MADE HIM PUT THE WINGS ON...

NO WAY!!

MUST HE LIVE HIS WHOLE LIFE CARRYING THAT BURDEN OF DEATH?!

SEIJI, DON'T GO!

AH!

WA-WAIT!

SEIJI!!

sfx wings flapping

SEIJI...

... A DREAM?!

SE... SEIJI.

... WHAT MONTH IS IT NOW?

HAA?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT'S AUGUST, ISN'T IT?

SHIZUKU, YOU WERE HALF-ASLEEP?

Just when I finally found you...

THANK ...

THANK GOOD-NESS...

IT'S BECAUSE YUUKO SAID SUCH A THING.

ABOUT WHAT?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SUCH A THING"?

HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH

"BUT FOR ALL YOU KNOW, HE COULD BE OFF TO A *REALLY* FAR-OFF PLACE, YOU KNOW!"

HE HE HE HE HE

WHAT'S ***WRONG*** WITH YOU? YOU'RE CREEPING ME OUT HERE.

!

TRUE,

CERTAINLY WE WERE ALL IN THE SAME BOAT.

EXCEPT ...

WITHOUT REALIZING IT, TIME IS SLOWLY SLIPPING BY...

AND BEFORE WE KNEW IT, WE WERE ALL HEADING IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

[illegible]

[illegible]
BEEN
[illegible]

YOU
KNOW.

ALL OF US
HAVING A
DIFFERENT
TIME
EACH...

EVEN IF
YOU WERE
TO SAY
THAT YOU
WILL BE
GOING TO
SOME PLACE
FAR

.....

EVEN
IF THAT
SORT OF
THING
WERE TO
HAPPEN

IF WE HAVE THE SAME FEELINGS...

I'M SURE OUR PATHS WILL MEET UP EVENTUALLY.

HEH HEH HEH

BUT YOU WON'T BE TURNING INTO A BIRD, RIGHT?

EVEN IF THAT *WERE* TO HAPPEN, WOULDN'T YOU SAY "DON'T GO ANYWHERE" THEN?

WHA-

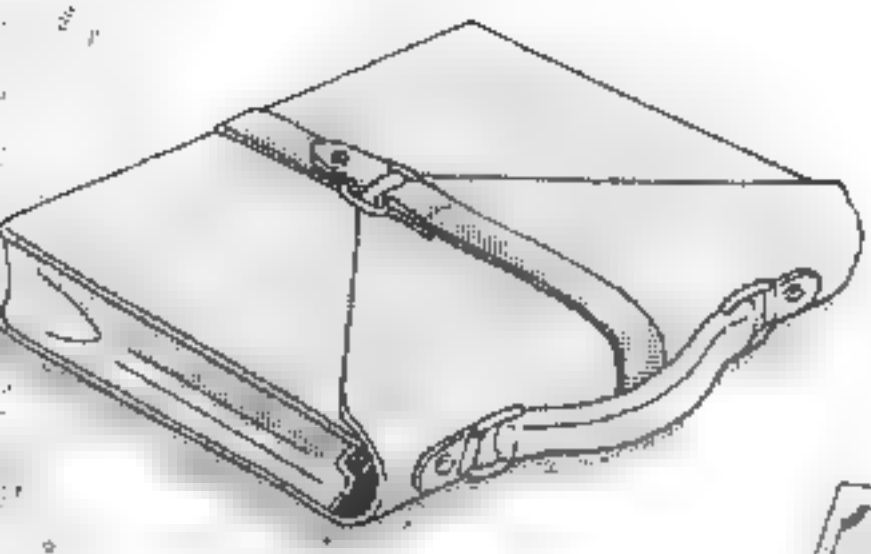
WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN-

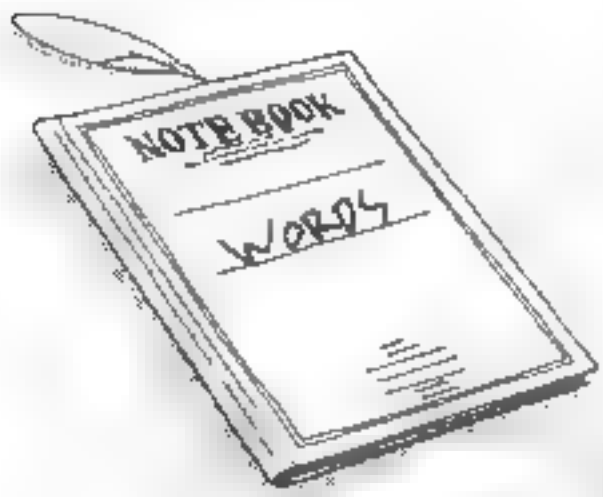
OH, NOTHING, REALLY.

HAA?!

WHADDYA MEAN BY THAT?

... LET US LEAVE THE HAPPY TIMES





ON TO THE NEXT WORLD ——————

... BUT LET US REMAIN FOR A WHILE LONGER

耳をすませば
幸せな時間

MIMI WO SUMASEBA
SHIAWASE NA JIKAN

END

"KIKYOU" IS A FLOWER, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS A CHINESE BELL FLOWER OR BALLOON FLOWER. FOR THE SAKE OF STORY FLOW, I'LL KEEP THE NAME AS KIKYOU, SO THIS SECTION IS JUST FYI.

桔梗の咲く頃

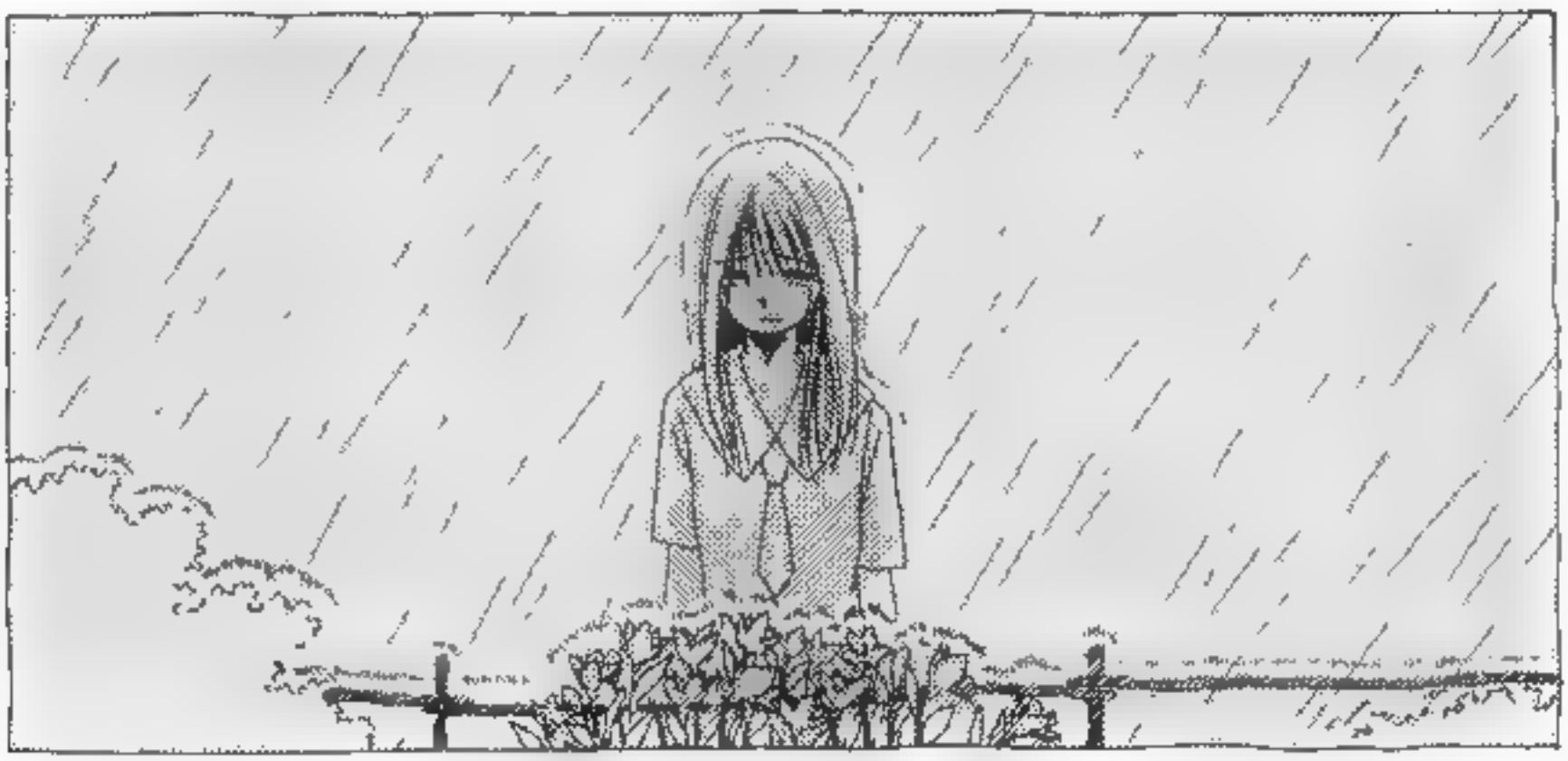
DOES SHE WANT SOMETHING?

THE UNIFORM IS OF A GIRL'S INSTITUTE

... AH

KIKYOU FLOWERS

AH



TSUGE
柘植

sfx crunch

IT'S ALMOST DINNERTIME ANYWAY, CAN'T YOU JUST WAIT?

sfx swish SMACK

ARGH, I'M SO HUNGRY. MAYBE I'LL...

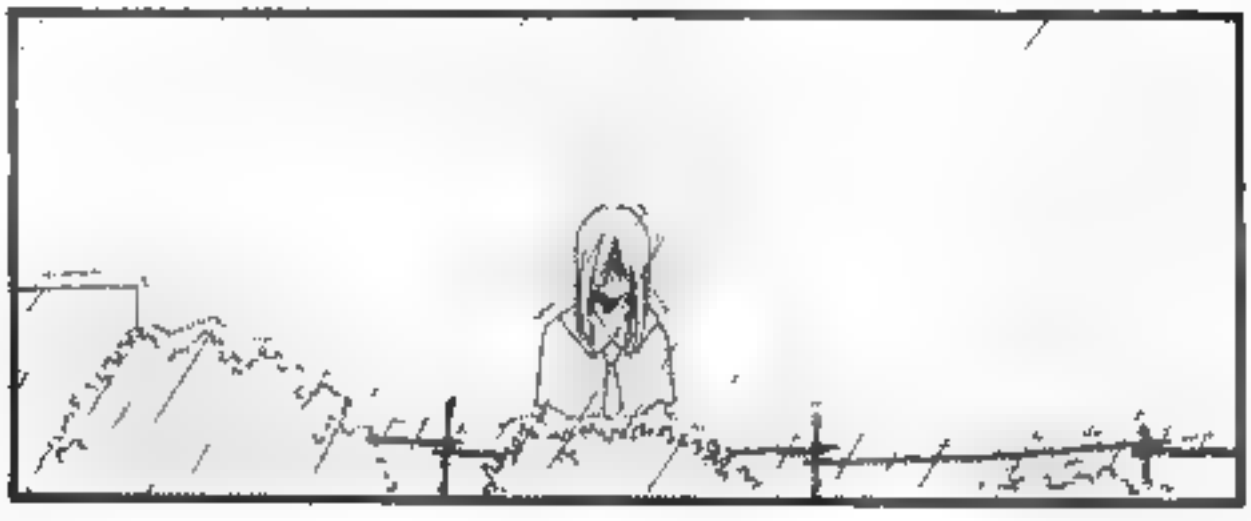
WHY HADN'T I REALIZED IT SOONER?

I GUESS SHE CUT HER HAIR.

ALTHOUGH THE LONG HAIR FITS HER FINE TOO...

sfx Bell ch me

A VAGUE MEMORY OF A SUMMER'S END



WHAT HAPPENED THEN?

SFX BAM

OW!

WHAT THE HELL?!

IDIOT!

?

MAYBE I'LL TALK TO HER NEXT TIME SHE COMES...

WONDER IF IT'LL SHOCK HER ! GUESS IT WOULD.

HEH HEH, C'MON TSUGE-CHAN, COME PLAY TOO.

OH SORRY SORRY

THAT WAS ON PURPOSE WASN'T IT?

SFX Bam Bam

YOU BIG MOUTH!!

HEEEY, WHAT'S THAT ABOUT? I WANNA KNOW, I WANNA KNOW!

Tell me Tell me

HIS HEAD IS TOO FULL OF THE KIKYOU GIRL, YOU SEE.

HE CAN'T, HE CAN'T

I SAID DON'T TELL ...

PUNK PUNK PUNK

Furuba Girl's Institute

By the flowers so you see

sfx grrr

Fist of fury

SO YOU'RE THAT KIND OF GUY, HUH...

sfx gr n

I SEE...

SO ROMANTIC EH, TSUGE-CHAN?

HITTING... ON... HER ..

SO? YOU'LL BE HITTING ON HER THEN?

OF COURSE. BUT IT CAN'T BEAT MY AFFECTION FOR HIROMI THOUGH.

EXCUSE ME?

IS THERE EVEN A *SPECK* OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN US?!

だし

PERSUASION

SLIM CHANCE THOUGH, ISN'T IT?

IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT? SUDDENLY TALKING TO A GIRL YOU DON'T KNOW IS CALLED HITTING ON HER, AFTER ALL.

IF A STRANGER WERE TO SUDDENLY TALK TO ME, I'D THINK, "WHAT'S *WITH* TH S GUY?"

YEAH, I GUESS EVEN I WOULD REFUSE TOO.

I... I GUESS.

Nice approach, Hiromi

... BUT THEN SHE DOESN'T COME ANYMORE...

EH HEH HEH HEH HEH

YOU- YOU THINK SO?

Just kidding

... BUT THEN TSUGE-CHAN *IS* KINDA CUTE, RIGHT?

AW, NO WAY, NO WAY.

WOULD BE NICE IF SHE COMES. .

YOU SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE COMING HOME EARLY, AND THEN YOU START TO SPACE OUT LIKE THAT.

TAKAYUKI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SHE CAME!!

sfx clothes flapping

IF YOU'RE THAT FREE, YOU CAN HELP FOLD UP THESE CLOTHES.

Ah, so okay Next is dinner

THANK YOU!

sfx flip flop

I'M NOT FREE!!

SHE'S NOT COMING, AFTER ALL...

sfx wind in the bushes

さわ

さわ

さわ

sfx door opening

ガチャ!!

AH!

AH...

EH UM

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE SOME?

THE FLOWERS, I MEAN

THAT IS...

EH...

UM...

YES... I LOVE THEM...

BUT...

YOU LIKE THEM, DON'T YOU?

I'LL GO TAKE THE SCISSORS.

JUST ONE? TAKE ALL OF THEM INSTEAD.

... IN THAT CASE, JUST ONE THEN.

WELL... WELL THEN, TAKE SOME, BY ALL MEANS!

HERE

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO MODEST.

ANYWAY, I'M ALMOST DONE.

UM, ONE IS REALLY ENOUGH.

PLEASE, STOP CUTTING THEM!

snip snip snip

THERE, THAT'S THE LAST ONE.

BUT...

UM...

I REALLY CAN'T!!

BUT... WHY?

I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS!!

SO- SO MANY-

IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH, *PLEASE*, ACCEPT IT.

THEY'RE ALREADY CUT.

.....

I'M REALLY MEDDLE-SOME, HUH?

... I THOUGHT YOU'D BE HAPPY IF I GAVE THEM TO YOU.

IT'S JUST...

I KNOW.

I'M SORRY. I D DN'T MEAN IT THAT WAY WHEN LOOKING AT THEM.

I ***AM*** HAPPY, VERY MUCH!!

SO MANY KIKYOU FLOWERS...

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!!

SUCH A NICE GIRL.

IF ONLY SHE WAS MY GIRLFRIEND, THAT WOULD BE GREAT.

I HAVE TO BE GOING NOW.

WELL THEN,

SFX BOW

Today's you favourite sauteed duck, but.

NO DINNER FOR YOU

SO WHAT DID YOU DO WITH ALL THE FLOWERS YOU CUT, EH?!

EH... UM... WELL, I..

TA KA YU KI !!

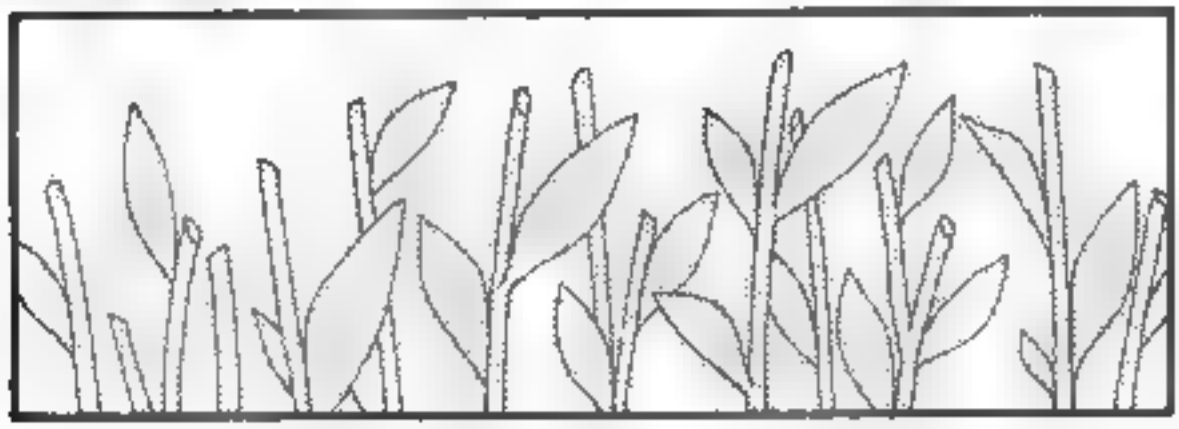
WHAT ON EARTH HAVE YOU DONE, CUTTING ALL OF MY PRECIOUS FLOWERS?!

sfx Ah

THAT'S RIGHT, NOW THAT ALL THE FLOWERS ARE GONE, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE HER AGAIN, CAN I?

OH NO!

sfx Big mistake



NEXT YEAR THEN...

FINE THEN, I WON'T TELL YOU ANY-THING ELSE!!

YOU'RE A REAL DEVIL, YOU KNOW THAT?

UWAHAHAHAHA

WHAT A WAY TO LAUGH..

OH MAN, WHAT A JOKE!

YOUR LYING GETS WORSE THE MORE YOU TALK, YOU KNOW.

Ow, my stomach hurts

You're just like a sugar daddy!

JUST TO CONSOLE YOU, YOU KNOW?

MAN, THAT'S STUPID. WELL, JUST LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE AND LAUGH A LITTLE.

Heh Heh Heh

NEVER HEARD OF 'EM.

AND QUITE A FEW *DO* THINK YOU'RE KINDA CUTE, TOO

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THAT GIRL, DOES IT?

THIS SCHOOL'S GOT NICE GIRLS TOO!

BUT YOU KNOW,

WELL THEN, THERE'S ALWAYS ME, ISN'T THERE?

SHOO, SHOO

HIROMIII, WHAT ABOUT MEEE...

WANT ME TO INTRO-DUCE SOME?

ALTHOUGH THERE'S THE LITTLE CRUSHES...

NAH. "ANY GIRL'S FINE" JUST DOESN'T CUT IT FOR ME.

AS EXPECTED, SHE NEVER CAME AFTER THAT.

IF ONLY I HAD CUT OFF HALF THE FLOWERS INSTEAD OF ALL OF THEM, SHE MIGHT HAVE COME AGAIN...

IT SEEMS SO LONG AGO

BACK TO THE SAME OLD DAYS AGAIN

I EVEN FORGOT ABOUT THAT INCIDENT TOO.

Hey hey, no need to get depressed over it

IT'S OKAY, YOU'LL FORGET ABOUT IT SOON ENOUGH...

THAT'S TRUE...

BUT... REALLY

WOW, IT'S REALLY POUR NG.

Aw, damn

I JUST CAN'T FORGET ABOUT IT...

Thank you very much!

WHAT TO DO.

THANK GOODNESS I BROUGHT ALONG AN UMBRELLA.

WOW... SHARE IT WITH ME.

GOOD AFTER-NOON

EH?!

LET'S GO.

IS IT OKAY?

WHAT SHOULD I SAY?

UM... UMM...

GOOD AFTER-NOON

SO WHY DID YOU GREET HIM?

I THOUGHT IT'D BE RUDE

HEY, THAT'S DANGEROUS. YOU SHOULD IGNORE HIM IF YOU DON'T KNOW HIM

MAYBE HE WAS HITTING ON ME?

WHO KNOWS

ISN'T HE YOUR FRIEND?

WHO KNOWS...

sfx rain pouring

THAT'S TOO MUCH!!!

ざあああああああああああああ

sfx rain pouring harder

Haa

BUT WE ONLY MET ONCE AFTER ALL...

CAN'T BE HELPED, I GUESS...

へろへろ

SHE COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT ME IN THREE MONTHS?!

IT'S ONLY BEEN WHAT, ONE, TWO, THREE...

THREE MONTHS...

Who knows.
Who knows
Who knows.
Who knows
Who knows
HA

EVEN SO, MORN NG STILL COMES

TSUGE-SAN

TSUGE-SAN

s&x Dazed

THANK GOODNESS... I'M SO SORRY, I DIDN'T REALIZE IT IMMEDIATELY BACK THEN.
SINCE YOU TALKED TO ME HERE YESTERDAY, I THOUGHT HERE WOULD BE A GOOD PLACE
... BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW MY NAME?

I REMEMBERED THE NAMEPLATE AT YOUR HOUSE.
I WAS REALLY, REALLY THANKFUL THAT TIME.

sfx rustling

YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE TO THANK ME FOR THAT.

IT'S TO THANK YOU FOR THE OTHER TIME.

IT'S REALLY NOTHING MUCH, BUT...

UM... HERE

BUT THEN I WAS UNSURE OF HOW TO REPAY YOU, AND THE DAYS JUST SEEM TO PASS BY...

THAT'S WHY...

YOU GAVE ME SO MANY KIKYOU FLOWERS, SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD REPAY YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,

PLEASE, I WANT YOU TO ACCEPT THIS.

EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOTHING MUCH...

THANKS, I'LL TREASURE IT.

AH-

YOU MEAN YOU WAITED AN HOUR JUST FOR THIS...

EH?

BUT, HOW LONG DID YOU WAIT?

SINCE SEVEN.

AAH, WAIT!!

WELL THEN...

I HAVE TO BE GOING NOW.

I'M SORRY.

HEY-

HE-

IF IT'S OKAY, COULD WE MEET UP TOMORROW?! SINCE IT'S... SUNDAY...

EVEN IF IT MIGHT FAIL, IT'S STILL YOUR LAST CHANCE!!

AH, NO... JUST K-DD NG.

DAMN, IS SHE LOOKING DOWN AT ME?! I WISH SHE WOULD STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT...

M-MAYBE A MOVIE-

H... HA...

RE- REALLY?!

WELL, IF IT'S ALRIGHT...

SU-
SURE.

... IS
THAT
OKAY?

AH ..
THEN
TOMORROW,
RIGHT HERE
AT TEN...

I DID IT I
DID IT I DID
IT I DID IT I
DID IT I DID
IT I DID IT

I
DID
IT!!

* Thank you Aida Kikyou

ありがとう
相田 桔梗

相田桔梗

HER NAME... IS KIKYOU?

I SAW!!

YOU- YOU SAW?!

sfx stare

HM?

WHAT'S UP, GUYS?

HMM ...

EXACTLY WHAT

TELL ME! TELL ME

ARGH, IT'S USELESS! THE GUY'S TOTALLY IMMUNE TO INSULTS

AIDA..

NO I WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE

YOU STAYING BACK OR SOMETHING?

MARUOKA-KUN!

YOU'RE GONNA LOSE YOUR WAY

IT'S ALREADY DARK, YOU KNOW

LET'S GO FOR A DATE SOME TIME

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT I'M ONLY NICE TO YOU!

MARUOKA-KUN, YOU MUST BE NICE TO EVERYONE RIGHT

AH, THERE YOU ARE, KIKYOU! LUNCH BREAK'S ALMOST OVER ALREADY!!

HANA-CHAN,

A GUY ASKED ME OUT FOR A DATE.

REALLY, WHAT *ARE* YOU DOING?

sfx clap clap

WOW, THAT'S GREAT, ISN'T IT?

GO FOR IT, GO FOR IT!

HM?

HOLD ON.

DON'T TELL ME, IT'S THAT GUY FROM YESTER-DAY?

YEAH... THAT GUY

AND THEN I SUPPOSE HE WOULD'VE FOLLOWED YOU ALL THE WAY HOME?

AH-

NO NO, THAT WAS A MISTAKE ON MY PART!

HE WAS SOME-ONE I KNOW.

AH, BUT IN THAT CASE, I'D BE WARY IF I WERE YOU. PLUS, IT WAS WEIRD THE WAY HE WAS HITTING ON YOU.

SAYING "GOOD AFTER-NOON" ALL OF A SUDDEN LIKE THAT, EH?

SO... HAVE YOU REPLIED YET?

THA- THAT'S A SECRET!

SO THAT'S IT, EH? BUT WHAT KIND OF GUY IS HE, EH?

YE- YEAH, I'M GOING

sfx: pat

YEAH, I THINK THAT'S THE RIGHT DECISION FOR YOU.

SHOULD HELP YOU FORGET ABOUT THAT GUY.

Really?

Really, really.

OH COME ON, HANA-CHAN.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT...

KIKYOU, HUH...

ありがとう
相田祐梗

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT...

JUST GOING SOME-WHERE

GOING ON A DATE, ACTUALLY.

TAKAYUKI, WHERE ARE YOU GOING DRESSED LIKE THAT?

I'LL BE GOING NOW.

JUST DON'T COME HOME REJECTED AGAIN, YOU HEAR?

TSUGE-SAN.

...
MORNING.

GOOD MORNING.

UM...

NO, NOT THAT... YOU LOOK GREAT, OF COURSE.

IS IT WEIRD?

AH, NO... IT'S JUST THAT I'VE ONLY SEEN YOU IN YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM, SEE.

BAKUHATU MOMO

AIDA KIKYOU, FUTABA GIRLS INSTITUTE, FIRST YEAR.

I'M TSUGE TAKAYUKI, CHUUOU HIGH, SECOND YEAR.

SO YOU'RE ONE YEAR MY JUNIOR THEN, KIKYOU-SAN.

YOU KNOW, WE HAVEN'T REALLY INTRODUCED OURSELVES PROPERLY YET, HAVE WE?

What shall we watch?

NO WAY! IT'S A REALLY NICE NAME REALLY FITS YOU!

BUT I WAS REALLY SURPRISED, THAT THE GIRL I GAVE KIKYOU FLOWERS TO IS ACTUALLY CALLED KIKYOU HERSELF

IT'S SOMEHOW EMBARRA-S NG.

Let's get some tea

BAKUHATU MOMO

sfx hahaha

はは

AH, SORRY, I SAID SOMETHING WIERD, DIDN'T I?

I- I SEE...

*NO I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE STUFF AT THE CINEMA SAYS SO SORRY

OVER THERE.

WELL, IN THAT CASE...

KIKYOU-SAN, IS THERE ANY PLACE YOU WANT TO GO?

WELL NOW...

IT'S THE PLACE I LIKE THE MOST.

SOME PLACE THAT JUST MAKES YOU FEEL RELAXED.

LIKE AT HOME FOR EXAMPLE, OR AT SCHOOL.

DON'T YOU HAVE A PLACE LIKE THAT?

THE DEPARTMENT STORE'S ROOFTOP, HUH? WOW, HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE I LAST CAME TO THIS K ND OF PLACE?

BEING IN A HIGH PLACE LIKE THIS WITH NO OTHER TALL BUILDINGS AROUND, DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE IN A WIDE OPEN SPACE?

WHEN I LOOK UP, IT JUST FEELS LIKE I'M FLOWING IN THE SKY...

SEEING NOTHING BUT THE SKY...

YEAH, IT DOES. EVEN I LOVE TO CLIMB TO THE SCHOOL'S ROOFTOP AND JUST LOOP UP.

A PLACE OF MY OWN, HUH...

KIKYOU-SAN, HERE.

EH?

TSUGE-SAN?

sfx cold wind blowing

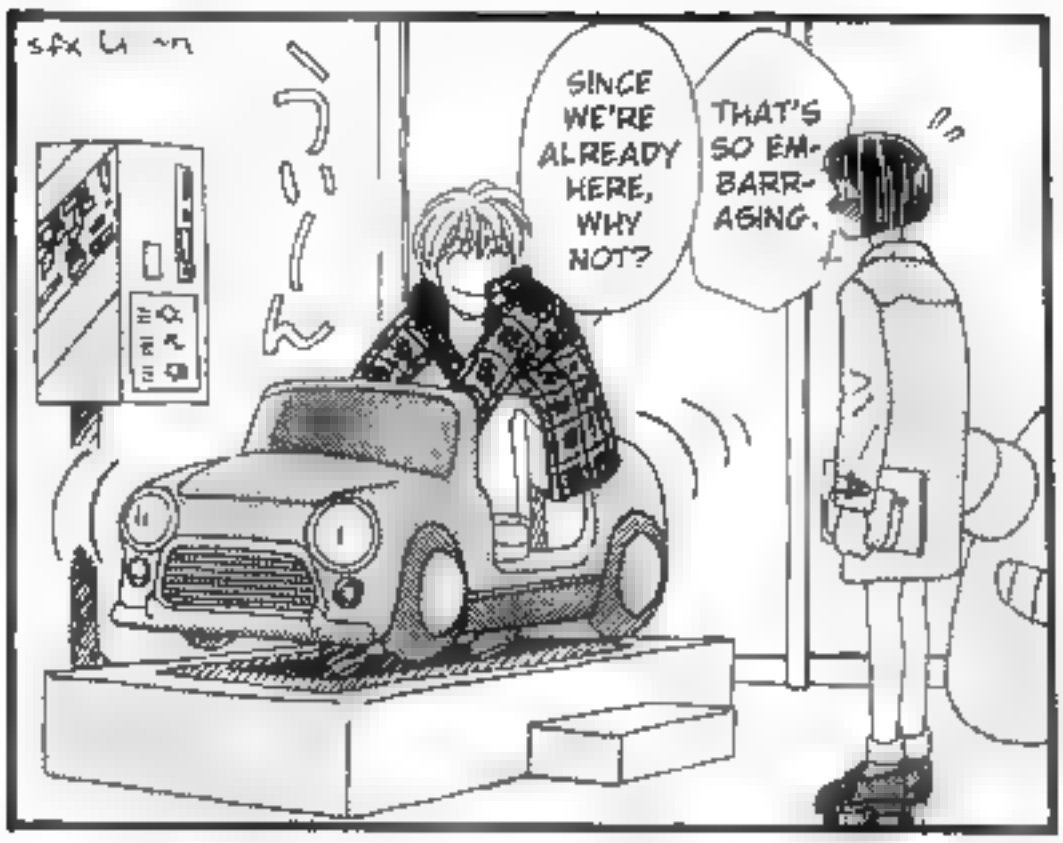
SOMEHOW I ALWAYS END UP DOING REGRETTABLE STUFF LIKE THIS.

THAT'S RIGHT, YOU DON'T EAT ICE-CREAM IN THIS COLD WEATHER, RIGHT?

AAH, SORRY!

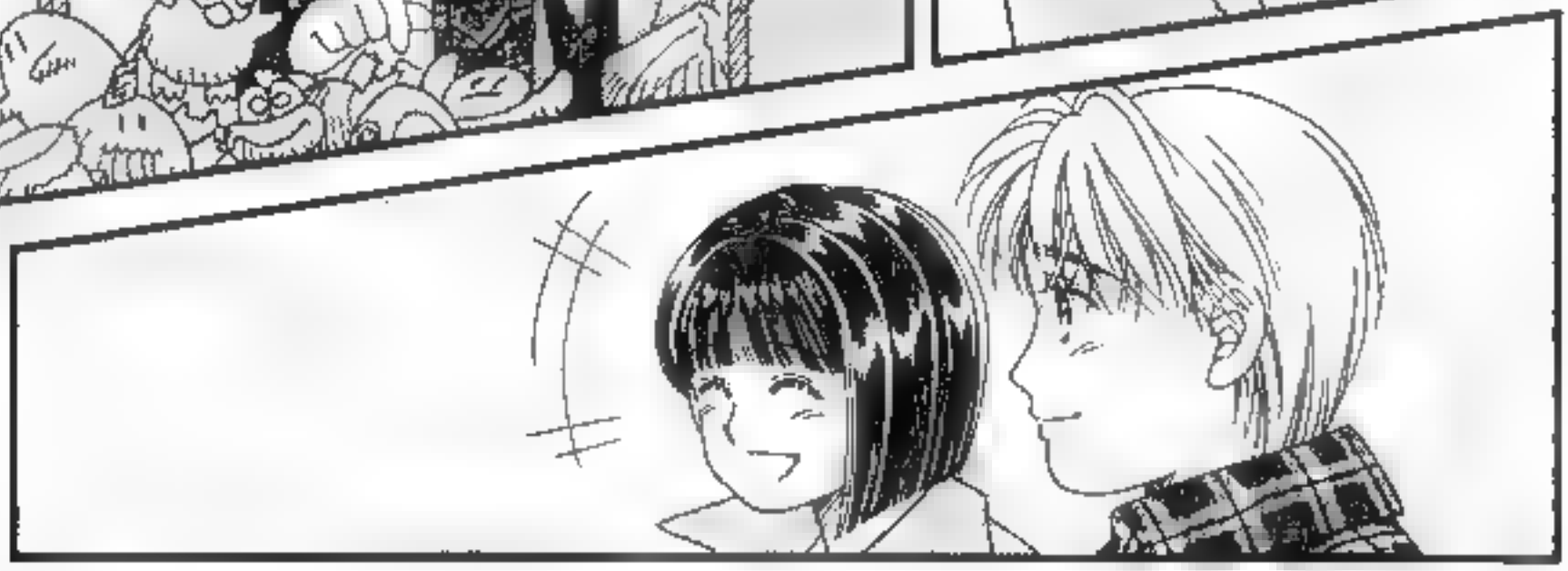
sfx ok

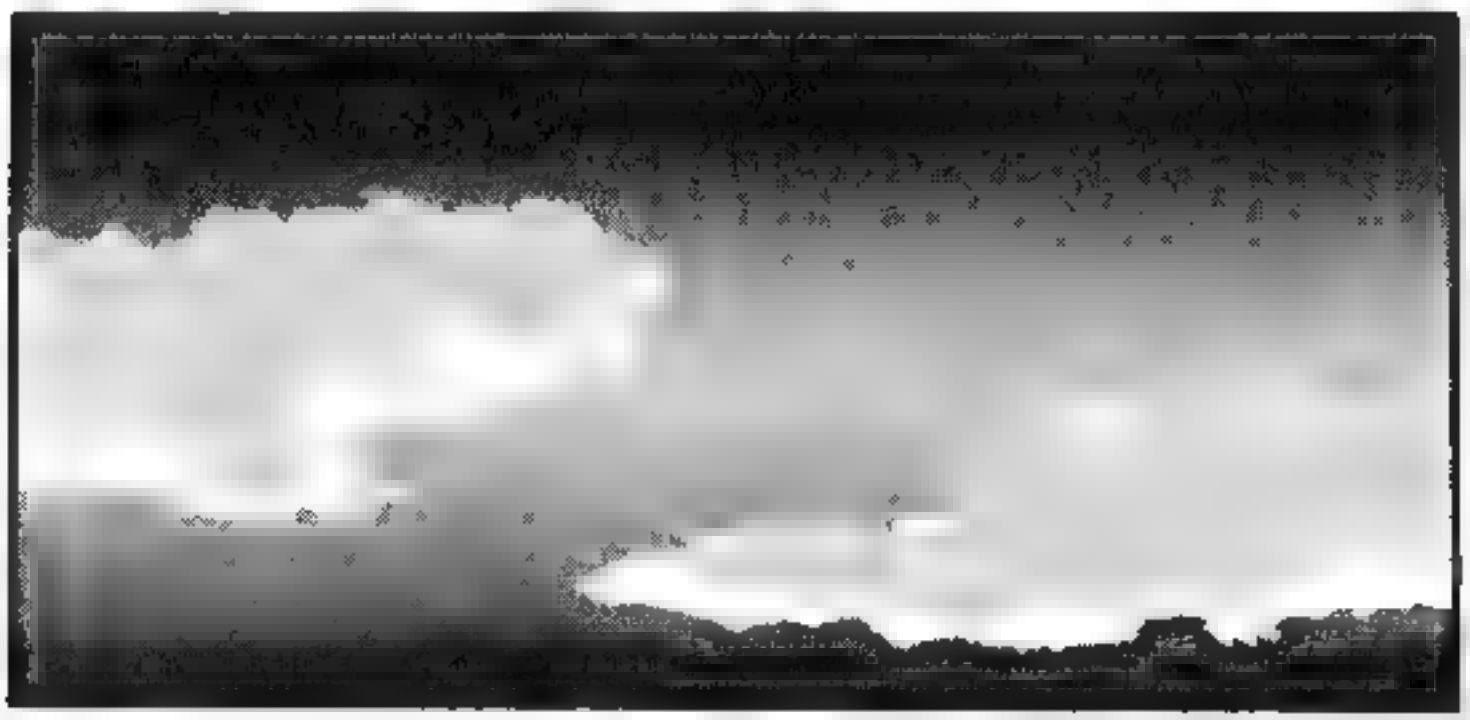
HEE HEE, IT'S DELICIOUS.


SINCE WE'RE ALREADY HERE, WHY NOT?
THAT'S SO EM-BARR-ASING.

THANKS.

AH, IT'S FROM THE MOVIE JUST NOW!





OH DAMN, I OVER-SLEPT!

FORGET IT!!

WHAT ABOUT BREAK-FAST?

WHAT'S WRONG? RARE TO SEE YOU UP SO EARLY.

EVERY MORNING.

I ALWAYS TAKE THE SEVEN THIRTY-SIX TRAIN ON THE THIRD CAR

WHEW, MADE IT.

ばばっ

sfx door closing

HEY

キョロ

キョロ

sfx shuffle shuffle

Yeah, so

I DID IT AGAIN

DAMN

LOOK AT HIS HAIR ..

HE HE HE HE HE

sfx glance

Oh no stop it

DON'T "WHAT" ME.

AND WHAT?

AAAND...

はっ

THE DATE, HOW WAS THE DATE?

HOW THE HELL DID YOU KNOW?

"I'M SO HAPPY!" IS WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE, THAT'S HOW!

7 - 5

HEY, YOU'RE LOSING, TSUGE-CHAN.

DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE THAT AT ALL?

GENTLY WATCHING OVER YOUR FRIEND'S LOVE,

YOU GUYS HAVE BEEN MAKING FUN OF ME A LOT LATELY.

* ALL THE SFX HERE ARE THE BATTING AND GRUNTING SOUNDS

GRR, TIME FOR THE ULTIMATE WEAPON

OKAY, 8-5 MATCH POINTS.

sfx smack

AH-

STOP LYING ALREADY!

WE DO, WE DO.

SERVE OF JOY!!

I'M NOT LOSING TO YOU!

JOY DESTRUCTION SMASH!!

OOPS, SORRY.

AH

YOU BIG MOUTH, I DIDN'T LOSE TO YOU!

HEY HEY, DON'T WORRY!

HAHAHA

SO, TAKAYUKI, PENALTY WILL BE A FULL-BLOWN REPORT ON YOUR DATE AND A TREAT, OKAY?

YA-Y, YA-Y

sfx batting sounds

キ

コ

コ カ

コ

OKAY, END OF GAME.

I DON'T REALLY MEAN WHAT I SAY.

EVEN THOUGH I'M BEING TEASED BY THEM AS USUAL,

sfx click click

SO THAT'S KIKYOU, EH...

MMM, CUTE.

WE MEET UP SOMETIMES DURING HOLIDAYS OR AFTER SCHOOL.

So do it like this.

Ah, I see

SINCE THEN,

Free Talk No 1

6 years ago, when I wrote "Mimi wo Sumaseba", they were showing "Majo no Takkyuubin" on the big screen. As a long-time big fan of Miyazaki Hayao-sama, seeing a children's literature turned into an original work, "I wonder if he'll make one from a manga..." happily went through my mind. (But Miyazaki-san wouldn't usually look up Shoujo Manga, and even if he does, I realize that it doesn't mean he'll call me up). However, several years later, I got a surprise call from my boss. "I heard that Miyazaki-san from Studio Ghibli wants to make a movie from Mimi wo Sumaseba, so..." That's impossible, I thought, and said angrily, "it's a joke, right? Stop joking like that, okay?!" (Obviously - -")

Even after I went to pay a visit Studio Ghibli and met up with Miyazaki-san, I still could not believe it. (The fan in me was all, "Waa, the real deal! Incredible!", and I got kinda woozy when I got a Totoro signature - -") Even when I received the Special Report video and saw my name on it, reality still did not hit me yet. ("Incredible! That's my name!" was what went through crazily through my mind, but somehow it was like the name of someone I don't know.) The only thing that really hit me was, "Ah, it's a good thing I took to drawing manga..." Now that this wonderful movie is completed, I have no words of appreciation worthy to give to Miyazaki and the staff. It feels like a lifetime of good luck has been used.

ON THE SAME TRAIN EVERY MORNING
UH, HE-HELLO. I'M TSUGE.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
MY FRIEND SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL, KISHINO HANA-CHAN.
JUST CHIT-CHATTING WITH HER IN THE FIFTEEN MINUTES WE HAVE.
... WITH ONE EXCEPTION.
I NEVER ASKED HER ABOUT THAT TIME.

Majo na Takkyuubin = Kiki's Delivery Service
Mimi wo Sumaseba = Whisper of the Heart

WHAT IS IT, HANA-CHAN?

HEY, KIKYOU.

IT IS *NOT* WHAT YOU ARE THINKING.

WHA- WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY-

WHAT KIND OF GUY IS TSUGE-SAN?

YEAH...

YOU'RE GOING OUT WITH HIM, AREN'T YOU?

HE SEEMS LIKE A NICE GUY TO ME. A BIT OF A SCATTERBRAIN, THOUGH.

HMM, ABOUT THAT...

SO LIKE I SAID, WHAT KIND OF GUY IS HE?

HE HE HE

THAT'S NOT TOO FAR OFF, ACTUALLY..

NICE GUY SCATTERBRAIN

Nice guy image

Scatterbrain mage

TO ME, HE'S SORT OF...

WELL, I GUESS.

HE'S RATHER AMUSING.

COME TO THINK OF IT,

HE ALWAYS DOES THINGS WITHOUT THINK NG.

... IMPULSIVE.

... FULL WITH A BOUQUET...

A GUY WITH HIS HANDS...

...

YOU...

Damn- I'm blushing-

WHAT'S WRONG?

... KIND OF GUY, I GUESS.

LOVE?!

BUT THAT SOUNDS LIKE LOVE DOESN'T IT?

I ONLY JUST REALIZED THAT.

LOVE, IT'S LOVE, THE BEGINNING OF A NEW LOVE!

AH, IT'S SO NICE, ISN'T IT?

N- NO WAY, TSUGE-SAN AND ME, WE AREN'T-

Listen to me!! HEY!

HOLD ON, HANA-CHAN!

*Tsuge Takayuk
Love Countermeasure
URGENT Meeting

拓植番え 恋愛対策 緊急会議

CONFESS-ION!!

キラキラ

... WILL YOU GUYS STOP PLAYING AROUND WITH MY BUSINESS ALREADY!!

拓植番え 恋愛対策 緊急会議

I MEAN, HOW LONG HAVE YOU TWO BEEN GOING OUT ANYWAY?

TWO... TWO MONTHS

AND HOW HAVE YOU BEEN DOING IT?

HOW, YOU SAY... JUST GOING OUT, MAKING CALLS, LIKE NORMAL...

OR MAYBE YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE IT?

ドキ ドキ

SO YOU SAY, BUT YOU YOURSELF ALSO THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME, DON'T YOU?

A. 何を
what should
なのぞか?
you do now?

sfx shakes head

"Takayuki-san you're a NICE GUY, but

Like so

YOU'RE GONNA END UP AS A "NICE GUY" AGAIN LIKE THIS

THERE YOU GO, SO IT'S ALREADY SPRING TIME FOR YOU! SPRING TIME!

sfx hmph

ボー

IT'S SUN-DAY, AFTER ALL.

YOU'LL BE SEEING HER TOMOR-ROW, RIGHT?

拓植番え
恋愛対策
緊急 会議

board. Tsuge Takayuk
Love Countermeasure
Urgent Meeting

sfx Bam

ALRIGHT, END OF MEETING.

Book from chan Sketch

AL-RIGHT, CON-FESS!!

GOOD LUCK!!

HOW DID IT GET TO THIS ...

... HE'S GONE, HIROMI...

sfx waving

BYE, SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!

sfx footsteps

OH, RIGHT. I HAVE TO GO TO THE TOILET FOR A WHILE. MAMORU-CHAN, YOU GO ON AHEAD.

HIROMI...
I THINK IT'S TIME YOU STOP PUSHING YOURSELF SO HARD.

YOU KNEW IT ALL ALONG THEN, MAMORU-CHAN.

I SEE.

BESIDES,

I CAN'T.

IF I DO THAT, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FACE HIM PROPERLY AGAIN.

HOW ABOUT YOU TRY CONFES-SING YOUR-SELF FOR ONCE?

SFX POP

I MEAN...

... EVEN IF HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND, WE... WE CAN STILL HAVE FUN TOGETHER.

IF HE CLEARLY STATES THAT HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND, THEN I CAN GIVE UP ON HIM, RIGHT?

SFX. GULP

IT'S WARM... THANKS, MAMORU-CHAN.

...
IDIOT!

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING WEIRD THE WHOLE DAY.

We already did that

AH, SORRY.

... IS IT THE THIRD TRANS-LATION?

TSUGE-SAN

TSUGE-SAN

LET'S END IT HERE TODAY AND GO OUT, SHALL WE?

RE-REALLY?

sfx thump thump

IF SHE REFUSES, THEN THAT'S IT.

AND AFTER WE'RE FINALLY GETTING ALONG JUST FINE.

CONFESS, HUH... OF COURSE I'D LOVE TO, BUT...

Hmmm.

COME TO THINK OF IT,

SHE DOES SHOW SOME KINDNESS TOWARDS ME, SO MAYBE WE *CAN* GO OUT AFTER WITH EACH OTHER.

とぼとぼ

JUST GO MAKE SURE ALREADY!

ALRIGHT, CONFESS!!

EH-

HEY, TSUGE-SAN, THE ROAD IS ***THIS*** WAY!!

I GUESS THE GUY SHOULD BE THE ONE TO ACT HERE.

IT'S NOT THAT AT ALL...

THAT IS...

IT'S NOT THAT!!

IS IT BORING BEING WITH ME?

REALLY, WHAT HAS GOTTEN INTO YOU?

KIKYOU-SAN.

I LOVE YOU.

I'VE BEEN THINKING OF US GOING OUT AS LOVERS.

THAT IS...

I...

TSUGE-SAN

IF POSSIBLE ... I'D LIKE TO HEAR YOUR ANSWER...

IF...

I SAID IT! I REALLY SAID IT!

... BUT I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT FOR A WHILE NOW...

I'M SORRY ... IT'S TOO SUDDEN.

SO IT JUST HAS TO BE THAT CLEAR, IS THAT IT?

.....

... ISN'T IT?

FRIENDS UNTIL YESTERDAY, LOVERS FROM TOMORROW ON, IT JUST HAS TO BE THAT CLEAR FOR YOU, IS THAT IT?

SFX grip

IS IT DIFFERENT FOR YOU, TSUGE-SAN? IF IT'S NOT DECIDED THAT WE'RE LOVERS, THEN...

... I REALLY ENJOY TALKING TO YOU.

IT'S LIKE I'VE KNOWN YOU FOR A LONG TIME.

IT JUST FEELS NATURAL... THAT'S WHY... EVEN IF YOU SAY IT THAT WAY...

... WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE OF...?

EVEN YOU WILL COME TO HATE ME SOMEDAY.

DECIDING JUST LIKE THAT, PEOPLE'S FEELINGS CHANGE, DON'T THEY?

I WON'T HATE YOU!! WHY WOULD-

HOW CAN YOU EVEN SAY THAT?!

BECAUSE I WANT TO LIVE BELIEVING IN THAT.

... BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN IT... BEING HONEST TO YOUR FEELING.

I'M SORRY

sfx train rumbling

SHE WASN'T EVEN ON THE USUAL TRAIN.

THE NEXT DAY.

SHE STARTED AVOIDING ME.

MORNING TSUGE-CHAN.

ヒョコ

HEY, HEY, SO HOW WAS IT?

すたすたすた

sfx feet dragging

HEY, TSUGE-CHAN.

SO HE GOT DUMPED, THEN...

Free Talk №2

Before the start of the movie's production, I received a surprise call from Miyazaki-san, who said, "Would you like to ride on an airship?" If he had said something like, "Would you like to go for a drive?", it wouldn't be strange, and confounded, I asked, "Eh...airship... you say?" to confirm with him. Well, I guess for people like Miyazaki-san, it's not that big a deal at all, I thought. Then Miyazaki-san replied, "Ah no, it's just that in the book, you said you wanted to ride in an airship." Well, actually, I just wrote that without any real hope, see? To think it would actually turn out like this!! And that was how my dream of riding an airship came true. And together with Miyazaki-san at that! Aah, I'm so moved!!! But... being weak to motion sickness, I was too nerve. I wasn't too concerned since I was fine with airplanes, but in reality, the airship was swaying, swaying... The airship was really swaying just like a real ship. Before long, on a dreamy sky, I became completely sick. Uu...& But the panoramic view from the window was really gorgeous. The airship's shadow moving across the ground gave me such a real moving feeling. I was really grateful to Miyazaki-san for giving me this unexpected opportunity. The next time I take a ride, I'll be sure to take motion sickness pills beforehand...&

SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED...
GUESS SO.
MOR-NING
MAMORU-CHAN
ISN'T THIS YOUR CHANCE, HIROMI?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I? IT'S FINE JUST HAVING FUN LIKE THIS.
STOP IT, MAMORU-CHAN

m- me too

I LOVE YOU, AIDA.

AIDA, I.

MARUOKA-KUN

MARUOKA-KUN

I LOVE YOU TOO, MARUOKA-KUN.

Fweet-Fweet-

Yo, hot as always, eh

KIKUOU!

IS MARUOKA REALLY TRANSFERRING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL?!

IT'S A PROMISE!

LET'S GO TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL, OKAY?

BECAUSE OF HOME MATTERS HE ... BE GONE BY THIS MONTH
EH, YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
NO WAY!!
THE TRANSFER'S ALREADY CONFIRMED
NO WAY
BUT MARUOKA-KUN DIDN'T EVEN TELL ME ANYTHING ABOUT IT!!
NO WAY
WHY DID YOU JUST IGNORE IT?
WHY DID YOU KEEP QUIET ABOUT IT?
I'M SCARED I COULDN'T ASK YOU ABOUT ANYTHING
HAVE YOU COME TO HATE ME?

WAIT!

KIKUOU!

MARUOKA-KUN'S GOING. YOU KNOW!

MARUOKA-KUN!

DON'T GO, MARUOKA-KUN!!

WAIT!!

MARUOKA-KUN

MARUOKA-KUN

MARUOKA-KUN

sfx heavy rain

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND TSUGE-SAN?

HERE, YOU'RE BEING WEIRD THE PAST FEW DAYS.

WHAT'S WRONG, KIKYOU?

... I ENDED UP RUNNING AWAY TO THIS GIRL'S INSTITUTE...

IN THE END...

BUT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT HIM SO HAPPILY UNTIL RECENTLY, WEREN'T YOU?

EH?!

NO WAY!

ENDED?

... WHAT DID?

KIKYOU!!

SO WHAT WAS *THAT* ABOUT?!

BUT...

NOD

YOU LIKE HIM, DON'T YOU?

I DON'T WANT TO HAVE THAT KIND OF FEELING ANYMORE.

BUT...

TSUGE-SAN IS *NOT* MARUOKA-KUN!!

SO YOU'RE JUST GOING TO CONTINUE LIVING YOUR LIFE LIKE THAT?!

THE ONE WHO IS REALLY WORRYING ABOUT IT IS YOU, ISN'T IT?

WHETHER IT'S FRIENDS OR LOVERS,

I *KNOW* THAT.

BUT ...

ALRIGHT THEN!

THE WAY THINGS ARE, THE SAME THING WILL JUST REPEAT ITSELF.

NO WAY!

LET'S GO VISIT MARUOKA-KUN!

JUST ASK MARUOKA-KUN YOURSELF WHEN YOU SEE HIM.

OF COURSE, I'M NOT SAYING THAT YOU HAVE TO GO OUT WITH TWUGE-SAN.

THAT THING YOU WERE TOO SCARED TO ASK HIM THAT TIME...

'KAY?

THE THING I WAS TOO SCARED TO ASK HIM THAT TIME

TAKING THE TRAIN IN THE MORNING. WAITING FOR THE TELEPHONE TO RING AT NIGHT.

SINCE THEN,

I'VE BEEN HOPING FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN.

... CAN WE JUST CONTINUE AS BEFORE...

"JUST BEING FRIENDS IS FINE", OR "I STILL LOVE YOU"..

WHAT SHOULD I SAY WHEN WE ACTUALLY MEET?

THIS SUCKS...

IN THESE TIMES, THERE ISN'T A DAY MORE UNBEARABLE THAN A FINE DAY.

Haa

SUPER BIG SMILE

YOOHOO, TSUGE-CHAAAN!

HA... HAA...

C'MON, LET'S PARTY!!

HEY, HOLD ON!

HANA-CHAN, ARE YOU REALLY GOING?

にしたかだ
西高田
NISI TAKADA

ENOUGH!

NOT THAT AGAIN, OKAY?

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN...

IT'S ONLY THE NEIGHBOURING PREFECTURE, BUT IT STILL TAKES ABOUT TWO HOURS BY TRAIN, AFTER ALL.

NO PROBLEM!

SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR OLD SELF ALREADY!

SO CHEER UP!

PLUS, IT'S ONLY A FIVE-MINUTE WALK FROM THE STATION.

I ALREADY CHECKED THE MAP PROPERLY.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIS NEW ADDRESS.

EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT...

SFX: door closing warning

!

HANA-CHAN, I REALLY THINK-

sfx gototon (train rumbling)

ゴトトン

ゴトトン

ゴトトン

NO WAY!

HANA-CHAN?!

ゴトトン ゴトトン

DANGER
DO NOT ENTER

WELL THEN... I GUESS I'LL HELP HER WITH ONE MORE THING THEN...

HAA... SHE'S SO MUCH TROUBLE, EH?

ガ ガ ガ ガ

カンバレ桔梗！

県桜市東町2-56-7
-3878 ← TEL NO.

THAT'S HORR-IBLE...

HANA-CHAN.

Map Good luck, Kyou

TSUGE-CHAN, YOU'RE SO MOODY!

KYAHAHAHAHAHAHA

ビーチチャー

ビーチ

AND IT'S ONLY MIDDAY, TOO.

DRINK UP, YOU SAY... ARE YOU GETTING DRUNK ON OOLONG TEA?

DRINK SOME MORE!

HERE, DRINK UP!

SHADDUP! MORE IMPORTANTLY, DRINK UP, TSUGE-CHAN, DRINK UP!

AH, SHADDUP AWREADY!

SEE WHAT YOU DID, YOU BIG MOUTH!

See, she's getting pale!

HI-HIROMI, GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF.

バタ

バタ

SHE MIXED IT WITH WHISKY!

AH!!

Thump

NOW WHEN DID SHE DO THAT...

sfx flap flap

C'MON, SHE'S JUST ANOTHER GIRL!

NOW SEE HERE, TSUGE!!

YOU'RE FOREVER GRUMBLING ABOUT SOME MERE GIRL, YOU KNOW THAT?

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HER.

BESIDES, TO CALL HER A MERE GIRL...

HEY BIG MOUTH, DON'T LET HER DRINK ANYMORE!

HIROMI!!

GULP GULP GULP

I SAW IT ALL WITH MAMORU-CHAN AT THE LIBRARY, DIDN'T WE?

AH- ID OT, DON'T TELL HIM THAT!

OF COURSE I KNOW!

BUT...

SHE'S SO COMPATIBLE WITH YOU...

... SHE'S CUTE, ISN'T SHE?

WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE HER?

TH-THAT'S-

HOW SHOULD I KNOW ... I CAN'T HELP IT, CAN I?

SINCE-

SHE'S SOMEONE I LOVE,

SO I LOVE HER!!

I COM-PLETELY UNDER-STAND!

GREAT!

HE SAID IT...

HEY, STOP IT! STOP HER!

I'LL CALL HER FOR YOU.

SO, THE NUMBER IS..

IN THAT CASE, DON'T GIVE UP AFTER ONLY ONE OR TWO ATTACKS!!

CAHUENGA STATION
LET'S GO BACK
I KNEW IT. I CAN'T DO IT.
I'M HERE
NOW WHAT?
IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN SEE HIM IF I CAME
AIDA?

I GOT A CALL FROM KISHINO.

I WAS SHOCKED... IT WAS SO SUDDEN.

FROM HANA-CHAN?

MARUOKA-KUN?!

BUT HOW...

UM, I...

THANKS FOR COMING.

MARUOKA-KUN, YOU KNOW...

FOR A LONG TIME, I'VE BEEN WANTING TO HAVE A PROPER TALK WITH YOU.

THAT TIME, I WAS REALLY HORRIBLE TO YOU.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SO SORRY.

I KNOW I CAN'T ASK YOU TO FORGIVE ME.

BUT I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU FOR A LONG TIME NOW.

AT THAT TIME...

I WAS... ... SCARED.

I DIDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO PART WITH YOU...

WHEN MY TRANSFER WAS CONFIRMED.

I THOUGHT I SHOULD TELL YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BUT SOMEONE OVERHEARD ME TALKING TO THE TEACHER AND STARTED SPREADING THE WORD.

AND IT JUST GOT HARDER AND HARDER FOR ME TO VOICE UP...

SO I THOUGHT,

EVEN IF I WASN'T THERE, AIDA WILL STILL CONTINUE HER DAILY LIFE AS USUAL... OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT

AND THEN, AIDA ...

...YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING TO ME EITHER, SEE?

IT'S... THE SAME AS ME!

THINKING BACK, IT WAS PRETTY STUPID OF ME, WASN'T IT?

I WAS JUST COWERING.

... MARUOKA-KUN.

... I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT MYSELF!

... AIDA.

I'M SO SORRY...

I'M SORRY TOO!

I'M...

TO THINK THAT YOU WERE SO WORRIED LIKE THIS...

... I HADN'T REALIZED IT UNTIL NOW.

MARUOKA-KUN, DO YOU HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND?

You cut your hair, eh?

... YEAH, I DO.

WHAT KIND OF GIRL IS SHE?

SHE'S A LITTLE... SIMILAR TO YOU, I GUESS.

REALLY?

HOW ABOUT YOU?

... INSTEAD OF MOVING FORWARD,

WE BOTH HAVE BEEN SHUTTING OURSELVES IN, HUH?

SO, IN THE END...

THERE IS SOMEONE I LIKE.

... YEAH.

ALTHOUGH I THINK I MIGHT HAVE MADE HIM HATE ME

WE COULD HAVE EASILY GOTTEN OVER IT

EVEN THOUGH WITH A LITTLE COURAGE.

GIVE MY REGARDS TO K SHINO TOO

.. SEE YOU SOME TIME THEN.

AIDA, YOU TAKE CARE TOO.

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING TODAY I'LL BE GOING NOW

SURE.

SURE.

ALWAYS SURPRISING ME...

ALWAYS KIND

BEFORE I KNEW IT, HE WAS ALREADY IN MY HEART...

TSUGE-SAN

HE CLIMBED OVER IT SO EASILY

THE GATE TO MY HEART

TSUGE-SAN, I WANT TO SEE YOU!

TSUGE-SAN

コトン コトン

コトン コトン

sfx: train rumbling

GREAT, I GUESS THERE'S NO HELPING IT NOW.

OH BOY.

SHE JUST GOT ALL ROWDY, AND NOW SHE FELL ASLEEP.

YEAH. THANKS A LOT. YOU B.G MOUTH.

SEE YOU ON MONDAY THEN

SO CHEER UP AL-READY

You're forever dense, after all

LET'S JUST TRY ONE MORE TIME THEN, EH?

ONE OR TWO ATTACKS... HUH?

EH?

THIS LOVE TRIANGLE OF OURS IS REALLY AMAZING...

BUT YOU KNOW,

... YOU REALLY CAN SEE THROUGH ANYTHING EH, MAMORU-CHAN?

SO HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA PRETEND TO BE ASLEEP?

OF COURSE!!

SO, WE GOT ANOTHER DENSE ONE HERE BESIDES TAKAYUKI, EH?

WELL, I HAD BEEN WAITING FOR A LONG TIME ANYWAY, SO...

I LOVE YOU, YOU KNOW.

IT COULD BE JUST A SIMPLE CRUSH, BUT...

HEY... WAIT.

*...FINE TOO"? WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

EH- *REALLY?!*

MAMORU-CHAN'S FINE TOO

I...

... MAMORU-CHAN.

IT'S ALREADY SO LATE AND SO SUDDEN

MAYBE I SHOULD JUST DO IT TOMORROW AFTER ALL

THE LIGHTS IN "SUZUE-SAN'S ROOM ARE ON. BUT

I CAME HERE, NOW WHAT?

EVEN THOUGH IT'S ALREADY APRIL...

WOO, IT'S COLD...

sfx slide open

I THOUGHT I FELT SOMEONE HERE.

... MUST BE MY IMAGINATION.

JUST NOW...

sfx slide shut

Riing Riing

Rrriiing

YES?

TSUGE HERE.

BUT HE APPEARED SO SUDDENLY...

AAH, STUPID, STUPID. EVEN THOUGH I CAME ALL THE WAY HERE...

Um...

Kikyou-
san

I...

I...

TSUGE-SAN, I LOVE YOU...

It's probably too late, but...

I LOVE YOU.

I...

Hello?
Tsuji-
san?

I LOVE YOU TOO, KIKYOU-SAN.

CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

HM?

I THINK IT WAS ONE AND A HALF YEARS AGO.

THERE WAS A GIRL IN THE RAIN, LOOKING AT THE FLOWERS WHILE CRYING

... HMM, WELL...

TSUGE-SAN.

HOW DID YOU ABOUT ME

BUT ONE DAY

THEY WEREN'T ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO ME OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

EVER SINCE I WAS A KID

THE KIKYOU FLOWERS IN MY GARDEN STARTS TO BLOOM

EVERY YEAR, AT THE END OF SUM-MER,

THAT GIRL HAS BEEN STUCK IN MY MIND.

SINCE THEN,

THAT IS, UNTIL THE GIRL APPEARED IN FRONT OF ME ONCE MORE. WITH HER HAIR CUT...

I FORGOT ABOUT THE INCIDENT AT SOME POINT OF TIME

OF COURSE.

AT THAT TIME

TSUGE-SAN...

I SAW YOUR HOUSE WITH KIKYOU FLOWERS IN THE DISTANCE.

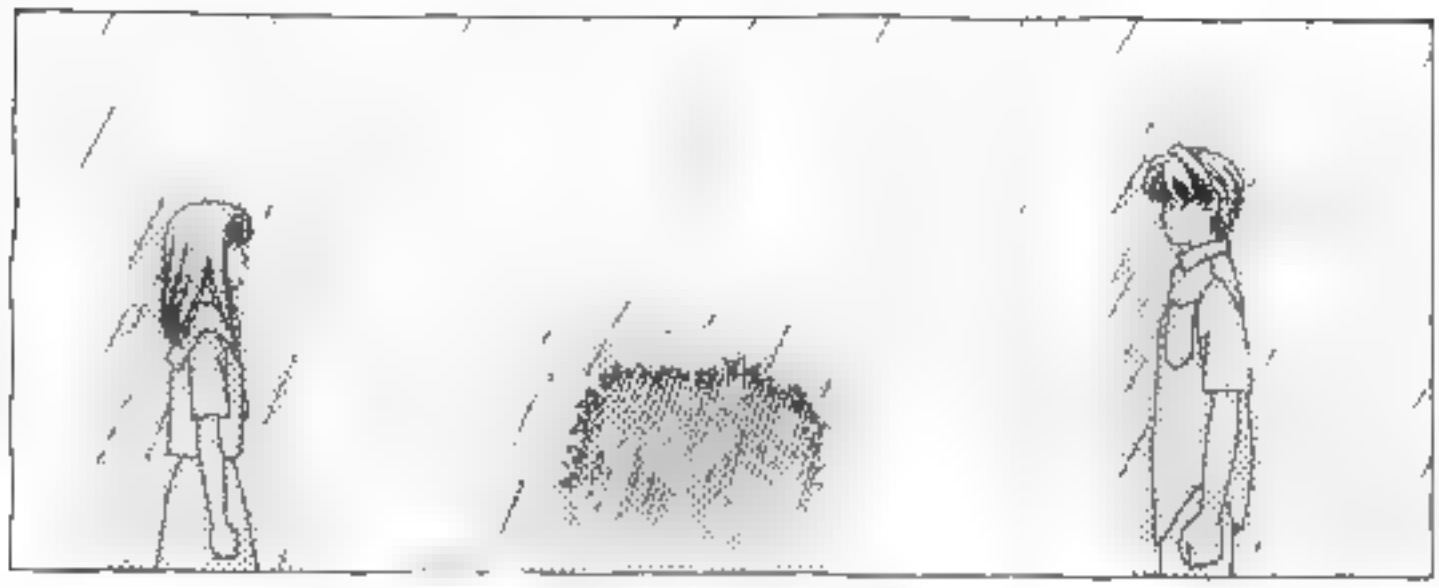
WHEN I RAISED MY HEAD AFTER CRYING...

AND YET, THE WAY IT WAS GIVING ITS BEST TO BLOOM,

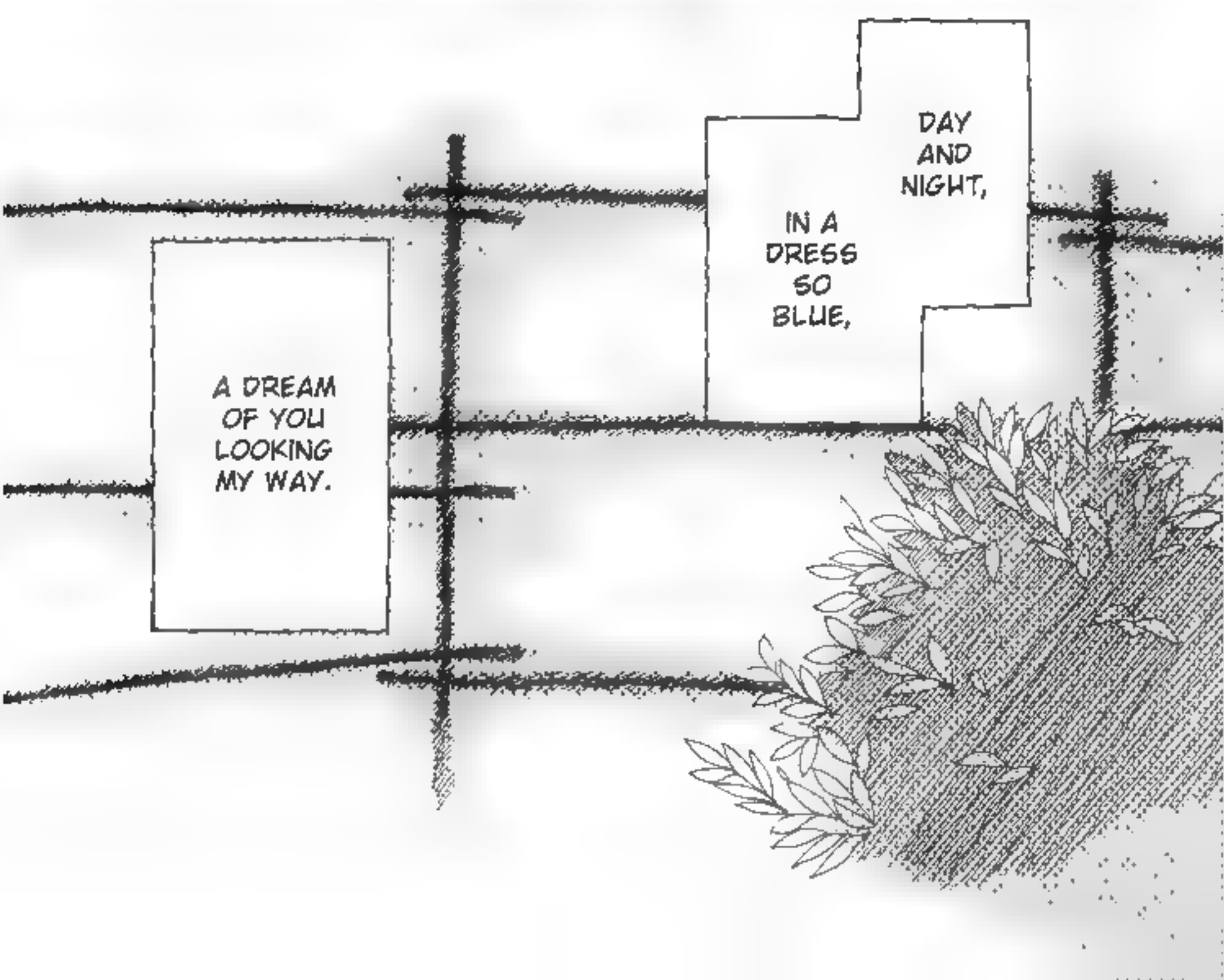
SOAKED IN THE RAIN, SWAYING IN THE WIND

IT WAS LIKE IT WAS TELLING ME, "DON'T GIVE UP, DON'T GIVE UP".

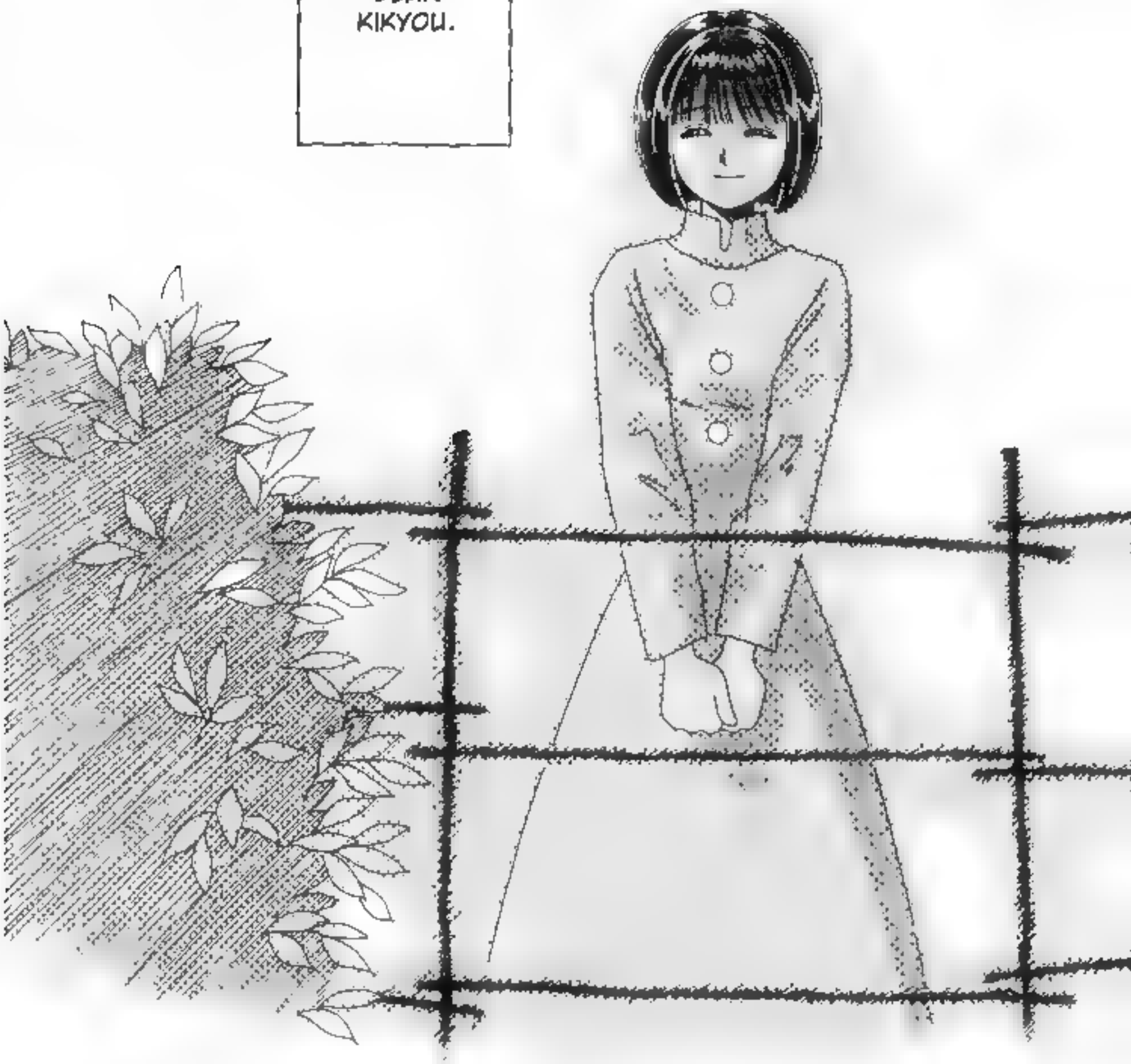
FROM THAT MOMENT ON...



THAT NIGHT, I HAD A DREAM.


A DREAM OF YOU LOOKING MY WAY.
IN A DRESS SO BLUE,
DAY AND NIGHT,

MY
DEAR
KIKYOU.



桔梗の咲く頃／おわり

KIKYOU NO SAKU KORO / END

WELL, THAT'S THE END OF THE MANGA. I HOPE YOU ENJOYED READING IT AS MUCH AS I ENJOYED SCANLATING IT. THIS MAY OR MAY NOT BE MY LAST SCANLATING PROJECT. AS OF NOW, THE *NEKO NO DANSHAKU* MANGA IS ALREADY AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH VIA VIZ, SO THAT PROJECT'S SCRAPPED (BUY IT, SUPPORT THE INDUSTRY!). HOWEVER, THIS MANGA HAS A LITTLE KNOWN SEQUEL OF SORTS, SO I MIGHT SCANLATE THAT IF I HAVE THE TIME AND ENERGY. WHO KNOWS?

ANYWAY, CREDITS TO THE PEOPLE BELOW, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO HELPED IN THE TRANSLATIONS (MY JAPANESE STILL SUCKS, FYI) JUST SOMETHING FORMAL FOR YOU PEOPLE, 'KAY?

RAWS PROVIDED BY:
JIJI, E-HAKKI (FOR SENDING ME THE RAWS)

TRANSLATIONS BY:
ROARKILLER
NANASHI
DBALLRED
JIJI
TOKUDA-SENSEI (HOUGANG JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL)
KENGHO (FR END IRL)
BABELFISH ALTAVISTA COM
THE LEARNER'S KANJI DICTIONARY (BY TUTTLE)
KODANSHA'S FURIGANA JAPANESE-ENGLISH DICTIONARY (ASIAN EDITION)

HOSTING BY:
WINGSEE

AS YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED, THERE'S AN EXTRAS FILE INCLUDED IN THIS LAST FILE. THEY'RE JUST SOME COMPILATIONS I HAVE TO SHARE FOR YOU EVERYONE, PLUS TWO WALLPAPERS I MADE UP FOR FUN. OH, AND THAT MANGA COVER? WELL... I'LL LET YOU GUYS FIND OUT FOR YOURSELVES.

THAT SAID, ENJOY AND GOODBYE!

収録作品メモ

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♥りぼんマスコットコミックス

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